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Soviet Union

Vol III No 063 31 March 1983

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SOVIET REACTION TO REAGAN INF INTERIM PROPOSALS

'Counter to Equal Security'

LD302328 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] On Wednesday President Reagan spelled out the so-called new American proposals at the Geneva talks on nuclear arms limitation in Europe. The interim proposals he advanced, just as the previous zero option proposals, run counter to the principle of equal security because they cover land-based missiles alone. They do not account for other types of intermediate nuclear arms or the American nuclear-capable bombers deployed in Western Europe, nor do they account for the nuclear missiles of Britain and France. At the same time, President Reagan reaffirmed the American intention to start the deployment of upgraded American nuclear missiles in Western Europe in December.

Only Limit Land-Based Missiles

LD301337 Moscow World Service in English 1100 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] President Reagan has sent a message to the heads of state and government of the NATO countries concerning the so-called new proposals of the United States at the talks in Geneva. The French newspaper L'HUMANITE says the head of the American Administration is advancing a so-called interim solution under which the Soviet Union and the United States will have about 100 medium-range nuclear missiles.

However those proposals, like the American zero option, are against the principle of equal security of the sides since they provide for only limiting the number of land-based missiles. The problem, says the paper, can be solved only if all types of medium-range nuclear arms are taken into consideration, including American bombers with nuclear arms aboard stationed in Western Europe.

New 'Version' of Zero Option

LD302317 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] In an interview with a correspondent of the leading Soviet daily PRAVDA, Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov has said that the problems of arms control cannot be a subject of political speculation. We bring you our comment by our observer Igor Dmitriyev.

Growing East-West tension, especially in the military field, has compelled even the most ardent supporters of the United States to take what is said to be a more flexible approach to the Geneva talks on medium-range arms in Europe. In fact, the 1979 NATO double decision on this matter, requires flexibility in the field of diplomacy, to prevent the military buildup in Europe. On its part, the Soviet Union has proposed to eliminate all nuclear weapons in Europe, both medium-range and tactical. The proposal is still standing. But if the West is not prepared to accept such a radical solution, the Soviet Union has offered to reduce its medium-range nuclear force to the combined level of Great Britain and France, and have not a single missile more. The same goes for combat aircraft that are capable of performing the same mission. What is unfair about the Soviet proposal? Are the French nuclear weapons aimed at Togo? No, they are not. By the same logic, the British nuclear weapons are not poised to strike at the Falkland Islands, and when President Reagan announced his interim agreement on medium-range weapons in Europe, did he mention hundreds of American weapon systems that already at the present level of penetration can strike deep into Soviet territory? No, he did not. All that we hear in the Soviet Union is that the United States has a right to bring modern missiles to our doorstep, while a comparable Soviet move, even if it is discussed in a Soviet newspaper or magazine, is described as proof of Soviet expansionism.

When President Reagan makes a smart statement about a Soviet threat to the United States or Europe, does he use a map of the world? No, he does not. If he did use one, he would have to show a network of United States military bases along the perimeter of Soviet borders, and would have to say that the United States is updating weapons that are stationed there so that they can strike at our territory. Plans to deploy thousands of nuclear-tipped cruise missiles is an example. According to administration officials, an interim or compromise solution is a version of the unacceptable zero option. Like Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has (?put it), this buildup or build down is integrated in American proposals that seek unilateral Soviet disarmament. President Reagan's Wednesday speech bears this out. It is not the numbers of missiles that count. It is the idea of exporting United States missiles to the Soviet doorstep. Does such an interim solution contribute to European security and to progress at the Geneva talks?

It has become somewhat of a worn out journalistic idiom, that there is nothing new except what is forgotten. The pseudo-new initiatives of the Reagan administration cannot but compel us to look back at what has already been proposed. The administration's new ideas are not as fresh as one would think they are. They are a new edition of the notorious zero option, but only in a new wrapping.

REASONS FOR 'DEADLOCKED' ARMS TALKS EXAMINED

PM301427 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 30 Mar 83 p 9

[Dispatch for LITERATURNAYA GAZETA by V. Shishkovskiy, correspondent of Soviet television and radio: "Who Is Wrecking the Geneva Talks?"]

[Text] Geneva [no date given] -- The latest meeting of the delegations to the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on limiting nuclear weapons in Europe took place 29 March. An adjournment until June has been declared. In the next few days here the latest round of talks on limiting and reducing both countries' strategic weapons will also be concluded. One has regretfully to record that this important dialogue on which the peoples of the world have pinned such high hopes has remained at a virtual standstill. And it is now clear even to unprejudiced persons why the talks are deadlocked. After all, given the sincere desire of the American side, there was and is every possibility of achieving mutually acceptable agreements on joint steps to lower the level of nuclear confrontation. The constructive proposals put forward by Yu.V. Andropov. general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the Warsaw Pact states' Prague Political Declaration have cleared the way for such steps. Their main content, as we know, is specific measures to rid Europe of all types of nuclear weapons, which represents a genuine zero option. However, this solution, judging by all accounts, suits the American Administration least of all.

Washington's blocking of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva is causing the growing concern and protests of broad circles of the world public. This was convincingly shown at the important forum of representatives of the leading international federations and national committees of war veterans which as just finished here. It adopted an appeal to the Geneva talks participants to overcome the existing disagreements. It is indicative that the American delegation tried to dismiss out of hand this appeal from millions of people who have themselves known the horrors of war, and refused on various pretexts to meet with the forum's representatives. And it was only after Yu. Kvitsinskiy, the USSR delegation head, had received the forum's representatives that the Americans, fearing the world public's just indignation, were obliged to go back on their words. The USSR delegation head stated in the course of a frank discussion with the forum's representatives that the Soviet delegation takes their appeal as a reflection of the desire of broad strata of the public to avert a dangerous new spiral in the arms race.

It is clear to everyone, the Soviet spokesman said, that the war veterans' voice is a particularly weighty one now. For, as Yu.V. Andropov pointed out in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondents' questions, "the present U.S. Administration is continuing to proceed along an extremely dangerous path."

IZVESTIYA REFUTES U.S. ARMS 'DECLINE' CLAIMS

PM301251 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Army General A. Gribkov: "Dangerous Spirals"]

[Text] The U.S. Administration has recently set about implementing an extensive program for the further buildup of the military might of the United States and its allies. It includes the development and production of nuclear weapons and the production of weapons based on the most recent scientific achievements and discoveries, including systems and means for conducting combat operations in and from space. All this is designed to increase many times over the destructive might of the U.S. military arsenal, including in Europe.

Washington's promotion of new military programs is inextricably linked with the escalation of strategic concepts and doctrines of "a first, disabling nuclear strike," a "limited nuclear war," "a protracted nuclear conflict" and others. All these aggressive doctrines threatening mankind are based on the calculation that it is possible, by using nuclear weapons, to win a nuclear war.

At the same time Washington propaganda is making truly Herculean efforts to justify this course toward war and the unbridled arms race by the existence of the mythical "Soviet military threat" and the United States' almost "fatal lag" behind the Soviet Union. This, incidentally, formed the large part of the passion of President Reagan's recent speech. "To hear the President, the United States is allegedly weaker that the Soviet Union everywhere, even in its own backyard, and all because in the past 20 years the Soviet Union has allegedly been rapidly building up its Armed Forces while the United States has allegedly been sitting with folded arms and its Armed Forces have fallen into a decline" it is stated in Yu.V. Andropov's replies to the questions of a PRAVDA correspondent.

The Pentagon brochure "Soviet Military Power" is a sort of code so to speak, or a Bible of this big lie of Washington's. It is by no means a fortuitous coincidence that its new "supplemented" edition published recently was, as it were, "superimposed" on the discussion of the U.S. Defense Department's next military budget in Congress. Indeed, no one in the U.S. capital even considers it necessary to conceal this. This link is obvious even in the preface to the brochure specially written by Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger.

But now let us see how the "folded arms" of the U.S. war machine really looks and what they are really doing.

A powerful military potential consisting of strategic offensive forces has been created in the United States and is constantly being improved. These forces include ICBM's, strategic aircraft and nuclear missile-carrying submarines. This is the so-called U.S. strategic triad that includes in the combat units a total of 2,120 nuclear weapon delivery vehicles, including 1,053 ICBM's.

The so-called "U.S. strategic program" for the eighties based on the further buildup of the strategic nuclear potential provides for the deployment of 100 new first strike MX ICBM's. The MX missile will be equipped with 10 individually targeted warheads with a yield of 600 kilotons each. In terms of its destructive capability this missile considerably exceeds the Minuteman III missile.

The deployment of the MX missile system is aimed primarily at undermining the existing parity of the USSR and U.S. strategic forces and achieving military superiority over the Soviet Union. Suffice it to say that the deployment of 100 of these missiles will give the Pentagon an increase of 1,000 warheads.

The other avenue for the buildup of the U.S. strategic potential is the development of the sea-launched Trident-II ballistic missile that will have a 60 percent advantage over the Trident-I in terms of range, a payload almost 100 percent greater, and an accuracy several times greater. In all it is planned to have up to 20 Trident-II submarines each with 24 missiles.

In addition the Pentagon has activated the development and preparation for the production of 100 new B-1B strategic bombers each of which can carry up to 30 cruise missiles with nuclear warheads. It is also planned to equip 270 strategic bombers in service with these missiles. The process of equipping 150 nuclear submarines and surface ships with the Tomahawk cruise missiles with nuclear warheads has begun.

The mass production of neutron weapons -- the Lance tactical missiles and 203mm howitzers -- designed for use in Europe has been initiated in the United States. The deployment of these weapons on the European Continent will substantially increase the likelihood that war will be unleashed. It must be said that the neutron weapon is an offensive one and not a defensive weapon as the White House propagandist would like to present it.

The purpose of using nuclear weapons continues to comprise the core of U.S. military policy. That is why the United States has refused the follow the Soviet Union's example and a undertake not to resort to first use of nuclear weapons.

Despite the Soviet Union's repeated proposals for the peaceful use of space, the U.S. Administration is preparing for the extensive militarization of space utilizing reusuable manned spacecraft. One these spacecraft it is planned to base missile and laser weapons for strikes from space. A special space command has been created in the U.S. Air Force to manage these programs.

The United States' renewed activity in building up its chemical weapon potential, primarily in expanding the production of weapons for people's mass annihilation like nerve gases and binary warheads, is generating particular alarm among the peace-loving forces.

In the United States steps are being rapidly taken to enhance the combat potential and combat readiness of its special forces. Thus it is planned to increase the Armed Forces' numerical strength by 250,000 men. In connection with the widespread technical reequipping of formations and units with sophisticated combat equipment and weapons that has now begun it is planned, in the second half of the eighties, to switch to a new organization and establishment structure for the ground troops and in particular to create "Division-86." In the estimation of Western specialists, that division should have greater strike power and mobility and the ability to successfully undertake offensive combat operations under the conditions of the use of weapons of mass annihilation. It is planned to furnish tactical aviation with about 3,000 aircraft while it is planned to increase the number of warships in the regular Navy by 100 units, bringing them up to 600 in this decade.

The plans for improving the general purpose forces place special emphasis on enhancing the combat potential of the interventionist "Rapid Deployment Forces." They have been created mainly to carry out U.S. imperial operations in various parts of the world. Within the "Rapid Deployment Forces," which recently gained the status of a joint command, it is planned to have over 200,000 regular troops and 100,000 reservists and a large quantity of combat equipment and arms.

Under U.S. pressure the U.S. European allies, particularly in the aggressive NATO bloc, are also taking the path of expanding the scales of the buildup of military preparations. The military expenditure of the bloc's member countries is growing and new armaments are being created and existing ones are being updated, including the French and British nuclear arms. The latest NATO Council session again expressed itself in favor of the decision taken earlier to deploy about 600 U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe. These so-called "Eurostrategic weapons" will create an additional threat to the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries. The deployment of the new U.S. nuclear missiles will enable NATO to acquire an almost 50 percent advantage over the Warsaw Pact in terms of medium-range nuclear weapons and a 100 percent advantage in terms of nuclear warheads. It is well known that the U.S. "Eurostrategic missiles" by remaining in the Pentagon's possession will be its first-strike weapon.

The plans and practical measures confirmed by the NATO military-political leadership for building up the NATO nuclear potential and primarily the medium-range nuclear weapons in West Europe do not help to strengthen the security of the United States' European partners. On the contrary, the implementation of this decision will inevitably lead to a reduction of trust and a deterioration of the situation of the European Continent.

Nor can we fail to note that in West Europe a powerful grouping of armed forces has been created. It has been deployed in the immediate vicinity of the borders of the socialist countries and is maintained at a high level of combat readiness. The armed forces of the bloc's countries in Europe number over 3 million men. The troops have at their direct disposal over 17,000 tanks -- counting those tanks in storage in West Europe and the Spanish and French tanks the total is 27,000 -- and they have over 3,500 combat aircraft. Despite the existence of approximate parity in general forces between NATO and the Warsaw Pact in Europe, the NATO leadership is actively implementing a long-term military program (through 1995) on a coalition basis making the maximum use of the economic potential and resources of the bloc's countries. The program's main aim is to achieve the NATO troops' military superiority over the Warsaw Pact countries' armed forces. Here it is planned to implement the military program's basic measures by the mid-eighties. To this end enormous funds are being earmarked every year. According to the official, very understated figures, NATO military expenditure in 1981 totaled $273 billion. In the past 10 years the bloc has spent over $1,774 billion. Despite this, the NATO countries' military expenditure is continuing to increase by 3 and more percent a year.

The buildup of the combat might of the bloc's armed forces is envisaged mainly on the basis of the massive reequipping of the troops with new armaments and combat equipment and a qualitative increase in this equipment. This year it is planned to supply the troops with 550 new Leopard-II and Challenger tanks and 450 other armored vehicles, over 700 Milan and Tow guided-antitank missiles, 310 Tornado, F-16 and Nimrod combat aircraft, 30 warships and other types of weapons and combat equipment.

At the same time the troops' organizational structure is being improved. The reorganization of the British formations and units is continuing, and the ground troops of the FRG and other NATO countries have been transfered to a new organizational structure. The fact that the U.S. and NATO leadership is seeking to secure a more favorable strategic situation for its troops in West Europe is attracting attention. In particular it is planned to effect a substantial relocation of U.S. troops closer to the GDR and CSSR borders. Here the Bundeswehr together with U.S. troops comprises the basis of the NATO strike power in Europe.

Stockpiles of armaments and combat equipment continue to be created on the West European countries' territories for the six U.S. divisions whose personnel it is planned to airlift from the United States over a 10-day period. Conditions are being prepared for transferring from the United States to Western Europe, within the same deadline, up to 80 tactical air squadrons (1,000 combat aircraft).

In addition the NATO Command is taking steps to reduce considerably the time taken for the bloc armed forces' strategic deployment. These questions are regularly rehearsed at large-scale strategic exercises that in recent years have acquired such scope and such a nature that they can be used for covert preparation for launching wide-scale aggression against the Warsaw Pact countries.

NATO's military preparations attest that the NATO military-political leadership is stepping up its gamble on war as a means of resolving in its favor the historical dispute between the two opposite social systems.

That is what the U.S. war machine's "folded arms" look like!

The Warsaw Pact states represented at the Political Consultative Committee Prague conference urged the countries of the world to engage in broad international cooperation to preserve civilization and life on earth. They stressed that the central place in the struggle to prevent war is occupied by the task of curbing the arms race and moving to disarmament, particularly nuclear disarmament.

Particularly important significance attaches to the socialist countries' proposal, put forward in Prague, to conclude a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between the states belonging to the two military-political groupings, the Warsaw Pact and NATO. This major peace initiative opens up a practical opportunity for resolving the most serious international problems. As the Political Declaration adopted in Prague points out, resolving these tasks is the duty of all governments and all statesmen who determine their countries' policy. This appeal reflects the basic vital interests of all peoples of the world.

U.S. DESIRES AT NATO NUCLEAR GROUP SESSION NOTED

PM301217 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 3

[Colonel M. Ponomarev "Military-Political Review": "NATO: At Washington's Bidding"]

[Text] With every day that passes the decisive importance, for the development of international events, of the outcome of the struggle against NATO plans to deploy American intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Europe is becoming increasingly obvious. As was pointed out at the Conference of Central Committee Secretaries from Socialist Countries' Communist and Workers' Parties held in Moscow, the implementation of these plans, the beginning of which is envisaged for 1983, would present a grave danger to the European peoples and would bring about a diminution of trust and a worsening of the international situation.

The crux of the matter is that U.S. efforts are quite openly directed not at reducing nuclear arsenals in Europe and strengthening peace but at deploying new nuclear missiles there targeted on the Soviet Union. This has been clearly shown at the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva, which have now been in progress for almost 18 months. The course of these talks has shown that Washington does not wish to seek a mutually acceptable decision that would be honorable and just and based on the principle of equality and identical security. The American side is attempting to achieve the Soviet Union's unilateral disarmament while wishing to keep completely intact its own programs for creating the latest nuclear missiles intended for acquiring military superiority.

The U.S. desire to achieve this superiority at any price and, in particular, to implement plans for deploying 108 Pershing II and 464 cruise missiles on the territory of a number of West European countries was again confirmed at the NATO Nuclear Planning Group session.

The group's sitting took place this week in the small Portuguese health resort town of Vila Moura. The defense ministers of all the NATO bloc countries (except France and Iceland) participated in its work. NATO Secretary General J. Luns presided over the session. However, it was not he who set the tone. The chief and determining role was played by Pentagon chief C. Weinberger.

As the foreign press reports, the session in Vila Moura analyzed the quantitative and qualitative composition of NATO's nuclear arsenal, heard a report in which Weinberger represented the Soviet Union's nuclear weapons in a distorted way, and discussed certain other issues. Moreover, all the Nuclear Planning Group's work was conducted under ceaseless U.S. pressure. They demanded unconditional support from the bloc partners for the program of deploying American intermediate-range nuclear missiles in Western Europe and steadfast observance of its implementation schedules.

Washington succeeded in getting its own way. In the final communique, which was couched in deliberately incisive terms, the NATO defense ministers confirmed their previous decision on "arms-upgrading," that is to say, on the beginning of deployment of new American missiles beginning this December. It is true that the communique contains the proviso that this decision will remain in force unless important results are achieved at the Soviet-American talks in Geneva by that time. But what this proviso is really worth is to be seen from the fact that the session's participants supported as the talks' ultimate goal the notorious zero option.

The question may arise why Washington needed a fresh confirmation of NATO's decision on "arms-upgrading," which was adopted back in December 1979. The point here is that when they took this decision just over 3 years ago the Atlanticists did not in any way expect the sort of anger and indignation it would provoke throughout the world. The peoples of Europe, and not just of Europe, quickly understood the deadly threat posed by deployment of American intermediate-range missiles on the continent and have been opposing the Pentagon and NATO plans with increasing determination.

This mass movement against the transformation of Europe into an American firing range for "demonstration" nuclear explosions and a "limited" or "protracted" nuclear war has crossed the ocean and taken hold of broad masses of the U.S. population. Here it has assumed the form of a struggle for a freeze on nuclear weapons and in favor of talks with the Soviet Union. The idea of freezing nuclear arsenals and limiting the nuclear arms race has acquired such force in the United States that the majority of the members of the House of Representatives of the American Congress already advocate it. The House Foreign Affairs Committee adopted a corresponding resolution by 27 votes to 9. The House of Representatives as a whole has to date put off discussion of the resolution calling on the United States and the USSR to freeze their nuclear weapons at the present level only because of the obstructionist stance of zealous supporters of the White House course.

But if the American Administration is still succeeding in resisting public pressure, the position of a number of West European governments is much more complex. They can no longer fail completely to take account of the will of the masses who do not wish to become the hostages of Washington's nuclear strategy. Therefore, the West European NATO governments both on the eve of the Nuclear Planning Group session and during its course attempted to obtain from the United States a more flexible stance at the Geneva talks and, in particular, a renunciation of the zero option.

This option put forward in his time by President Reagan means in fact either the USSR's unilateral disarmament (the Soviet Union's renunciation of the intermediate-range missiles which it possesses while the United States and the other NATO countries keep all their intermediate-range weapons deployed in the European zone intact) or the utmost possible prolongation of the Geneva talks because of the obvious unacceptability of the American zero option to the USSR in order ultimately to accuse the Soviet Union of "intractability" and "unwillingness to come to an agreement" and with the help of this diversionary maneuver to free its hands to implement the "arms-upgrading" plans.

Even during the nuclear planning group session this attitude by the United States brought objections from its partners. But Weinberger succeeded in silencing the critics of the American position. Eventually Washington got confirmation of its position from the NATO allies.

Meanwhile, accelerated preparation for the deployment of American missiles on European soil is continuing. The British newspaper, THE TIMES, pointed out as obvious facts that regardless of the achievement of any sort of agreement in Geneva "the first of the new NATO missiles will be deployed in December in conformity with the plan agreed by the allies in 1979" and that "this deployment will include a certain number of the 108 Pershing-II missiles, which it plans to deploy in West Germany." The newspaper wrote this as far back as the eve of the session in Vila Moura and its prediction has been confirmed. Not only C. Weinberger but FRG Defense Minister M. Woerner also called on the session's participants to deploy the first missiles simultaneously on the territory of West Germany, Britain and Italy and then Belgium and the Netherlands.

But no matter how dangerous Washington's plans regarding intermediate-range missiles for Europe are, all of this is only part of an extensive program for edging the world toward the nuclear abyss. New aspects of this program became known from articles in the American press about the fiscal 1985-1989 defense guidance: signed by the Pentagon chief on 1 March. This "guidance" is a revised version of a similar document drawn up under Weinberger's direction a year ago that has provided the basis for the Reagan administration's military policy.

The new "guidance" emphasizes that the United States "must prepare itself for a protracted nuclear war against the Soviet Union." What is more, particular emphasis is placed on "offensive nuclear potential," whose use is proclaimed to be a "key element" of American strategy. At the same time, the possibility of the use of nuclear weapons by the United States even in "limited" military conflicts is being examined. Moreover, as THE NEW YORK TIMES newspaper emphasized, the U.S. Armed Forces have imposed on them the duty of envisaging in both plans "the employment of intermediate- and long-range nuclear missiles so as to conduct combat operations more effectively."

They also have it in mind to make vigorous use of other kinds of weapons of mass destruction, above all, chemical ones in offensive hostilities. The ground forces' task is to create "improved chemical ammunition" and the Air Force is being required to acquire chemical warheads and delivery vehicles for them.

Finally, the "guidance" allocates a prominent place to the problem of accelerating the militarization of outer space. It is planned, in particular, to speed up laser weapon development and create F-15 fighter squadrons equipped with antisatellite missiles.

Such plans and their implementation can only aggravate still further the situation in the international arena and exacerbate the atmosphere of war hysteria. And this is precisely how the public also evaluated President Reagan's American television address on 23 March. Attempting to justify his bellicose course, Reagan, as before, frightened the Americans with the nonexistent "Soviet military threat." His address showed that the U.S. Administration maintains its former militaristic position.

As Comrade Yu.V. Andropov shows in his replies to PRAVDA correspondents' questions published in today's issue of our newspaper, "The President's speech was apparently intended to attempt to influence the frame of mind in the United States and appease the growing anxiety there with regard to the administration's belligerent course." Reagan and his closest aides are increasingly pursuing a policy that goes contrary to the desires of ordinary Americans. Observers considered the House of Representatives' decision to approve an "alternative" U.S. draft budget for 1984 that differs considerably from the draft proposed by the White House to be a most powerful blow to President Reagan's prestige.

Moreover, the adopted "alternative" version plans a relative reduction in arms expenditure growth rates. Not for nothing has Reagan called the House of Representatives decision a "declaration of war" against the administration.

Nevertheless the White House is continuing to follow its former course. It intends to continue imposing its will not only on the American population but on other peoples of the world as well as on its own partners in aggressive military blocs. This has been precisely borne out by the results of the NATO Nuclear Planning Group session in Vila Moura and the rubber-stamped American plan for NATO bloc "arms-upgrading." All of this is gravely undermining international security.

The Soviet Union is always ready to give a prompt and effective response to the growing threat to the security of the USSR and its allies which the new American missiles in Europe would represent. As Comrade Yu.V. Andropov emphasizes: All attempts to achieve military superiority over the USSR are in vain. The Soviet Union will never tolerate this, it will never remain defenseless in the face of any threat.

'ABOLISHMENT' OF U.S. DISARMAMENT AGENCY VIEWED

LD300947 Moscow TASS in English 0910 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 30 TASS -- The gradual folding up of the activities of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency by the Reagan administration is a graphic manifestation of its openly hostile and obstructionist attitude to the problem of curbing the arms race. This was pointed out by the participants in a seminar which took place at the premises of the association of U.S. arms control supporters on Tuesday.

Since the installation of the Reagan administration, the staff of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency has already been cut by about one-quarter, William Kinkeid, executive director of the association, said. Almost 30 per cent of top posts in the agency have been either left vacant or filled temporarily with officials who do not have proper qualifications.

Many representatives of the Reagan administration, international relations Professor Dunken Clark of the American University said, generally believe that the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency is just an extra burden. Such figures as U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Burt demand its abolition already now.

The cause of the scandal which has now flared up over the appointement of Kenneth Adelman to the post of the agency's director, Paul Warnke, former head of the U.S. delegation to the Soviet-American SALT-2 talks, said, is not so much the attitude of Adelman himself as serious doubts about the commitment of President Reagan and his administration to the cause of limiting the arms race. The Soviet Union is justifiably puzzled by Washington's approach to this important problem, Paul Warnke added.

PEREZ DE CUELLAR COMMENTS ON TALKS WITH ANDROPOV

'Broad, Profound Survey' of Events

PM301453 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "UN Secretary General's Statement"]

[Text] In an interview for a TASS correspondent J. Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, expressed gratitude to Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, for his kind invitation and for the meeting, in the course of which there was an opportunity to discuss key international problems.

The talk with the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, J. Perez de Cuellar noted, took the form of a broad, profound survey and examination of the most important international events and problems. We expressed concern at the prevailing internaional situation and at how things stand in the disarmament sphere. We believe that great attention must be devoted to this question, and particularly to limiting the nuclear arms race.

I believe, J. Perez de Cuellar went on, that the invitation to visit the Soviet Union was an expression of the Soviet land's trust in the United Nations as an instrument of detente and peace.

The meeting with Yu.V. Andropov took place in an atmosphere of sincerity, frankness and friendship. I assess highly his profound knowledge of international problems, his keen intelligence and his sense of humor. Our talk was frank and important. A useful exchange of opinions took place. This meeting will help me significantly in fulfilling my functions as UN secretary general.

J. Perez de Cuellar stressed: There was no serious international problem which was not raised by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and on which I did not set forth my view as UN secretary general.

USSR 'Support' for Afghan Solution

PM311131 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Visit Ends"]

[Text] The main threat to peace throughout the world is the nuclear arms race. This was stated by J. Perez de Cuellar at a press conference for Soviet and foreign correspondents.

The UN secretary general noted that Yu.V. Andropov takes a deep interest in this important problem. In the course of talks with him and with A.A. Gromyko, he said, I became well acquainted with the Soviet Union's opinion on all international problems.

I received with great attention, the guest went on, the disarmament of the USSR and the Warsaw Pact states. On the basis of this initiative dialogue must begin between the interested parties. At this stage it is important for the sides to sit at the conference table and start talking.

J. Perez de Cuellar stressed that the United Nations, as an organization in which the entire world community is represented, can give great assistance in this matter. The United Nations advocates a world disarmament campaign, he said.

Answering a question on a possible meeting between Yu.V. Andropov and R. Reagan, the UN secretary general said that preparations for this meeting, in view of the complexity of world problems, must be thorough, and then it will play a useful role.

Many questions from the correspondents touched on the situation in the Near East. The United Nations, the guest noted, is a good platform for a peaceful settlement of the Near East problem.

J. Perez de Cuellar reported that he discussed with Yu.V. Andropov questions of a settlement of the Afghanistan situation. I am filled with optimism in this respect, he stressed. I saw support on the USSR's part for my efforts to resolve the Afghan problem.

The UN secretary general answered many other questions from correspondents.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION MEETING IN MOSCOW ENDS

LD301300 Moscow TASS in English 1130 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- The Togolese National Trade Union of Public and Allied Employees (Sintrawago) was admitted to the Trade Union International of Public and Allied Employees under a decision taken today by the international's Executive Bureau, which ended its session in the Soviet capital.

The charter of the Trade Union International of Public and Allied Employees, Hans Lorenz, general secretary of this mass association grouping more than 100 trade unions of 43 countries, pointed out at the session, warrants respect for the independence and sovereignty of any of its affiliated organisations, which total more than 28 million members.

He said that trade unions of Nicaragua, Iraq, Ghana, Senegal, India and other countries have also expressed the wish to join the Trade Union International of Public and Allied Employees.

The problems of developing, gaining independence and struggling for peace and disarmament are indivisible, Hans Lorenz emphasised. He said that disarmament and the conversion of the munitions industry along civilian lines meets the interests of the social progress of all states. It is precisely this policy that would allow the release of the huge scientific and technological potential, now tapped for military needs, for peaceful purposes.

Analysing the prospects of the association's activities, Hans Lorenz said: "We are prepared to take part in the world assembly 'For Peace and Life, Against Nuclear War', which will take place in Czechoslovakia in June. Besides, we hope to participate also in the struggle against chemical and bacteriological weapons', which will open in Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, next May."

BRIEFS

1982 FOREIGN TRADE FIGURES -- The Soviet Foreign Trade Ministry has published figures on the development of economic cooperation of the Soviet Union with the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America last year. Trade increased by 2.7 percent. The biggest partners were India, Iraq, Libya, Argentina, Iran and Afghanistan. The Soviet Union increased the delivery of machines and equipment. In exchange the developing countries ships their traditional exports on which there are no customs duties in the Soviet Union. [Text] [Moscow World Service in English 1400 GMT 30 Mar 83 LD]

COMMENT, REPORTAGE ON REAGAN DEFENSE PLAN

Kuznetsov Review

LD301234 Moscow World Service in English 0700 GMT 30 Mar 83

[From the "Midweek" program presented by Vladimir Pozner]

[Text] We begin as usual with Pavel Kuznetsov's view of the world at midweek:

When President Reagan said in his nationwide television address that he wants America to switch to a defensive posture by developing an antiballistic-missile defense system in space, he was not talking through his hat. I spent the weekend leafing through a stack of American military magazines and found several articles about such a system. Thus, a 1982 issue of the ASTRONAUTICS AND AERONAUTICS MAGAZINE carries a lengthy review of what such a system would be like in the year of 2032. The United States has been working on laser weapons for several years already. In fact, it has tested two of them: a land-based laser to intercept antitank missiles and a laser onboard the KC-135 tanker to shoot down pilotless drones. Laser and particle-beam weapons are to become the backbone of a foolproof-missile space defense which, according to some scientists, is from 15 to 25 years down the road. While there had been a good deal of research, theoretical work and money poured into technology of the 21st century, what was lacking was a clear statement by an American official that the United States could not care less about some of its international commitments. On 23d March President Reagan did just that. Article Five of the 1972 Soviet-American Antiballistic-Missile Treaty reads: "Each party undertakes not to develop, test or deploy ABM systems or components which are sea-based, air-based, space-based or mobile land-based." Is President Reagan unaware of this treaty on this particular article? I don't think so. I hope there are people in his administration who know such a treaty exists and pass the word to the President.

In the military lingo there is such a term as smart weapons, smart bombs, smart missiles, smart artillery systems and so on. They stand for weapons that can destroy targets with a single shot. The Reagan administration indulges in smart statements, smart interviews, smart news conferences -- meaning by that pronouncements that are supposed to convince everyone, provided people are as smart as wooden Indians. The argument in favor of antiballistic-missile defense is (?that) what is wrong with having a defensive system. But does President Reagan want at the same time to scrap all offensive weapons, such as strategic land-based missiles, cruise missiles and heavy bombers and missiles on nuclear subs? No he does not; he even keeps modernizing them. So, a combination of a defensive system and first-strike offensive weapons is a sign that the United States contemplates a first strike while counting on defense against retaliation.

People of my generation grew up in the shadow of the cold war. The United States had a monopoly over nuclear arms and later on an eight to one lead in them. Those who, like my son, are 9 years old today will have to live in the shadow of cruise missiles -- developed and mass-produced by the United States -- and neutron weapons. Those babies who will be born 5 to 10 years from now will have to live in the shadow of space weapons. In 1972, the Soviet Union and the United States made an attempt to make the future brighter by signing an AMB Treaty. On 23d March, President Reagan in his television address dashed the hope of a healthy future by extending the arms race into outer space. Smart politicians, smart weapons.

U.S. Paper Cited

LD301237 Moscow TASS in English 0934 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] New York March 30 TASS -- The new militaristic program set forth by Reagan evokes growing anxiety in the U.S. prominent experts in the sphere of the arms control and competent observers come up with the denounciation of the dangerous policy of the Washington administration.

J. Smith, former director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, writes in CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR that the new military plans of the White House cannot be regarded apart from the measures to build up strategic offensive armaments which are already being implemented by Washington. Reagan is not going to replace offensive systems with defensive ones, and this means that instead of one arms race we shall have two, he points out.

The political observer of CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR Joseph Harsh underlines that trying to justify another plan of strategic armaments buildup, Reagan in his latest speech over the TV put forward a number of "arguments" which are obviously intended for credulous people who do not understand the essence of the problem.

Reagan's program envisages the creation of new systems of armaments contrary to logic and common sense. Although the U.S. public opposes their endless build-up, as it follows from the results of opinion polls, the observer stresses.

U.S. Opposition Noted

LD300957 Moscow TASS in English 0743 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 30 TASS -- Protests are getting stronger in the U.S. against the adventuristic policy of the Reagan administration aimed towards the arms race and the build-up of the already enormous arsenal of offensive nuclear weapons. The influential coalition for new foreign and military policy which affiliates over 50 public, professional, religious and other organizations, came up with a resolute condemnation of the military preparations of the administration. The Reagan administration is insistently pressing for a sharp increase of the military potential primarily for delivering a first nuclear strike, it is pointed out in a statement circulated by the coalition. This year the Pentagon is going to demand from a Congress means for building 27 new "MX" intercontinental ballistic missiles. It is planned to bring allocations for the building of "Trident" missiles to the staggering sum of 1,500 million dollars.

The coalition urged all the peace champions to press for the disruption of the dangerous plans of the administration which bring humanity closer to a nuclear catastrophe.

U.S. PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE CAMPAIGN CONDEMNED

LD310137 Moscow TASS in English 2141 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- "The dissemination of obviously unconscientious and false information is a means which is used for the benefit of certain political designs and schemes," Vikentiy Matveyev, political news analyst of the newspaper IZVESTIYA writes today.

The militarist bent of the Washington "hawks", and not a "hand of Moscow", impels millions of new people to join the ranks of active champions of peace in various countries, including the USA.

How is this reacted to in U.S. top echelons of power? Having admitted that the movement for a freeze on the production of nuclear arms was sweeping America, the occupant of the White House asserted, for example, that the movement was inspired not by the sincere, honest people who really want peace but by some who want the weakening of America and who manipulate honest and sincere people for these purposes.

And, in an obviously forced step, the Department of State sent appropriate directives out to U.S. missions abroad as to the need to circulate versions, which are designed to discredit the peace movement in the West as "inspired from the outside", through Western mass media. The emergence of such falsehoods has coincided with the feverish manoeuvres of U.S. diplomacy which is trying to cover by such kind of smokescreens, the lack of any constructive response to the USSR's peace initiatives.

A "secret scenario" of an imaginable war in the Persian Gulf area, scenario which has been prepared inside the Pentagon and which has just been made public in the USA by the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL, is a direct military propaganda, the news analyst goes on. This is a gross anti-Soviet falsehood designed to poison relations between our country and Iran.

At the beginning of March this year, Charles Wick, director of the U.S. Information Agency, having said about a planned considerable increase in government appropriations for the activities of his agency for 1984, stated that the USA should seize the initiative in what he described as a fierce competition of ideas in the present-day world.

In this connection Vikentiy Matveyev writes: Ideological struggle is an objectively inevitable process under the conditions of the existence of different social systems. But struggle in this field does not and must not have anything in common with "psychological warfare" which the USIA chief calls for, implementing the directives sent to him from the high-ups. Such a course is part and parcel of the present U.S. Administration's overall policy designed to strain to the utmost the state of confrontation between states with different social systems.

U.S. 'Propaganda' Policy Decried

LD302112 Moscow TASS in English 2005 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- The unprecedented efforts to intensify the activity of the governmental bodies of foreign policy propaganda have been taken in Washington in the first months of the current year, Sergey Losev writes in the April issue of the journal INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS [MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN].

The hullabaloo accompanying a fresh bout of the interest of the U.S. Administration in propaganda started from the time when the head of the Republican administration speaking in the British Parliament last June proclaimed a "crusade" against communism.

The new stage in the implementation of the plans of the "crusade" coincided with the beginning of the third year of the Republican Party's stay in power. It entered the year under the fire of criticism which heightened within the country and abroad.

The author notes that in the draft budget for 1984 the government asked 832 million dollars for financing the activity of the main organ of the U.S. foreign policy propaganda -- USIA, of subversive radio stations and other bodies of "psychological war." This is an increase of 108 million on the allocations of the previous year. "The dirty imprint of the poisoners of the ether, disseminators of lies and animosity among peoples has earned them ill fame on all continents", the article says. "Maybe, this is why they in Washington now seek to cover up the subversive propaganda conducted by the official and semi-official U.S. bodies by the new label of public diplomacy".

They in Washington make no secret that the "targets" of the propaganda barrage will be, first of all, the peoples of the socialist countries, as well as the public of West European, Asian, African and Latin American countries. The planned ideological campaign actually means an outright interference in the affairs of other countries. The attempts at such interference are nothing new in the practice of U.S. imperialism. But this interference has an exceptionally brazen character this time. The "psychological war" against the forces of peace, progress and socialism is actually being made one of the main directions of the course of the White House on the international arena, Sergey Losev writes.

The article says that the United States is striving to mobilise all the NATO countries mass media obedient to the USA for the dampening of the anti-war protests in Western Europe unprecedented for their strength.

Mass protests against the nuclear missile strategy compel Washington to resort to measures which smack of gross distortion of the real state of affairs.

USIA together with the CIA, the Pentagon and the State Department are working out "evidencies" that demonstrations in Western Europe against the plans to deploy U.S. nuclear missiles have allegedly been "inspired by Moscow". The U.S. Administration makes the attempts to discredit the peace champions not only for the purpose of dampening the wave of anti-war protests in the United States and abroad but also to cover up the actions of the Western special services aimed at penetrating the anti-war movement by its agents, at splitting and disorienting the movement and, if possible, at using some pacifist organisations against Soviet policy.

Subversive ideological actions, pseudosincerity of "public diplomacy", rebuilding of the propaganda mechanism which proved to be ineffective -- this is characteristic now of the sphere of the activity of the U.S. Government which is entrusted with the task of overcoming the "crisis of confidence" of the U.S. and world public in the policy of the Republican administration. "Inherent in this activity are aggressiveness, unceremonious treatment of the history and facts, deception, lack of respect for lawful interests and rights of other peoples, class hatred for socialist countries, for national liberation and other progressive movements," Sergey Losev writes.

EXPANSION OF U.S. MILITARY BASES ABROAD NOTED

PRAVDA Details Deployment

LD310834 Moscow TASS in English 0716 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- By the end of the year of 1982 there had been a total of 543,400 American soldiers in Italy and Iceland, Australia and Turkey, Japan and Guam, while in 1980 there were only 480,700 of them. Over the past year, almost 8,000 were added to the U.S. contingent in the FRG, almost 5,000 -- to that in Japan, and so on, the newspaper PRAVDA writes today.

The newspaper has reprinted a drawing from the American U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT magazine showing the countries where American military entrenched themselves. But behind the asterisk signed, for example, "Britain", there are more than 100 American military bases, roughly as many as in Japan, where new Pentagon bases are being hastily created now.

As the newspaper points out, nuclear weapons are deployed in many U.S. bases abroad. "Over the past two decades, in whose course, as President Reagan claims, the USA was allegedly 'idling its time away' and because of which its Armed Forces were allegedly following into decline, the number of American nuclear munitions grew three-fold to top 7,000 units nowadays in the zone of Europe alone, where the Pentagon's biggest force and most important bases abroad are located," the newspaper PRAVDA writes.

It is usually believed that there are fifteen hundred U.S. military bases in 32 countries the newspaper PRAVDA continues. Among them there are such bases as one in Comiso in Sicily (Italy), which is under construction now and where it is planned to deploy 112 American cruise missiles targeted on the USSR or the U.S. Air Force Base Clark Field, which occupies more than 53 thousand hectares of the territory of the Philippines, more than the District of Columbia in the USA.

It was mainly after the Second World War that a network of the Pentagon's bases abroad began to be built, in the first place near the Soviet territory, the newspaper recalls. Their very geographical distribution is indicative of the direction of the Pentagon's base strategy, which is that of keeping forward-based nuclear means near the borders of the USSR and the socialist countries. Even the American press pointed out more than once that the bases should serve as a "magnet" diverting a strike against American territory. It is in full conformity with that strategy that preparations are being carried out nowadays for the deployment in Western Europe of new American nuclear cruise and Pershing missiles; in the Asian-Pacific region -- the reequipment with Tomahawk and Trident missiles of the Seventh Fleet which is based in Japan, the Philippines and Guam.

The U.S. bases, PRAVDA writes, also serve as strongpoints for the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force, which was formed for interference in the affairs of other countries and peoples.

'Threat to World'

LD300326 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Text] Speaking in an interview with the Soviet national daily PRAVDA on the recent statement by President Reagan, the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Yuriy Andropov, said among other things: The President displayed a photograph showing a civilian airstrip in one of the Latin American countries and claimed that is poses a threat to the United States. However, he did not show photographs of hundreds of airstrips thousands of miles away from the United States, from which American nuclear-capable aircraft can go into action at a moment's notice.

In a commentary that follows, our military observer Colonel Eduard Grigoryev considers some information about American military bases stationed around the world.

The United States maintains over 1,500 military bases in 32 countries situated on all continents. Deployed at these bases permanently are over 500,000 American servicemen. The Pentagon has deployed a total of 12,000 nuclear weapons outside the Untied States. Being the commander in chief of the United States Armed Services, President Reagan is no doubt aware of all these facts. The President also knows that deployed outside the United States territory is one-third of the Air Force, two out of four operational fleets, a greater part of nuclear submarines and one-third combat-ready land forces and Marines. It would take quite a few satellite images to demonstrate the American military presence around the world and especially near the borders of the Soviet Union and it would take a lot of time to show such images on television. However, no such images have been shown on American television.

The aim of the United States President is to distort Soviet foreign policy and he is prepared to go to unseemly lengths to reach that aim. He claimed that a civilian air strip in Grenada poses a threat to the United States but he did not say a word about the hundreds of American nuclear weapons stationed all around the perimeter of the Soviet Union and capable of striking at Soviet territory. The President did not remind the American people that 7,000 American nuclear weapons in Western Europe are trained on targets in the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty countries. Nor did he draw their attention to the fact that the combat capability of American aircraft stationed in Britain is greater than that of the British Air Force or acknowledge that the Soviet Union and the socialist countries are literally encircled by American military bases.

The American President could also have recalled that many American electronic surveillance posts are situated in northern Norway near the Soviet border and that stationed in Turkey are American stations monitoring satellites and air and sea-borne targets. Turkey borders on the Soviet Union directly and is situated closer to it than Cuba to the United States.

The President did not say a word about the agreements between the United States and Oman, Somalia and Kenya, under which the Pentagon gained access to 10 airfields and ports on their territory which it is now modernizing. Preparations are underway for modernizing the Omani military base on the island of Masirah. The United States is modernizing Sib Airport in the Omani capital and the air base of (Marka), Somalia. The Pentagon has the use of the Kenyan port of Mombasa, the Somalian naval and air force base of Berbera, and airfields in Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Djibouti and Bahrain.

The United States Rapid Deployment Force and the Central Command were set up for aggression in the countries of the region.

This list of American overseas military facilities goes on and on. It shows that it is not the Soviet Union that threatens the United States and the rest of the world, as the American President claims. On the contrary, it is the United States under the Reagan administration that continues to follow a very dangerous path. Washington's moves pose a threat to the entire world.

In his interview with the national daily PRAVDA the general secretary of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, Yuriy Andropov, emphasized that President Reagan's speech made on 23 March and devoted to military issues was apparently designed to calm public opinion in the United States alarmed at the administration's bellicose policy.

DPRK'S HWAN CHANG-YOP MAKES STOPOVER IN MOSCOW

SK310503 Moscow in Korean to Korea 1130 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] On its way to Malta, a delegation of the DPRK Government and party led by Comrade Hwang Chang-yop, secretary of the Central Committee of the KWP and chairman of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly of the DPRK, sojourned in Moscow on 29 March.

Comrade Shitikov, chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, saw off the delegation.

NAKASONE SEEKS 'MORE FLEXIBLE' POLICY TOWARD USSR

PM301257 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Unnamed correspondent's dispatch: "Y. Nakasone's Statement"]

[Text] Tokyo, 28 Mar -- Japanese Prime Minister Y. Naksone has advocated pursuing a "more flexible" policy toward the Soviet Union. Speaking in Sapporo, so the KYODO news agency reports, he pointed to the need to improve Japanese-Soviet relations and declared that the search for paths in this direction constitutes one of his government's chief tasks. Nakasone said that he advocates preserving the dialogue with the USSR and he voiced the hope that cooperation between the two countries in the sphere of fishing, science, technology, culture, and opening up Siberia's natural riches will develop. At the same time the Japanese premier repeated unsubstantiated territorial claims on the USSR.

ASEAN SHOWS CONCERN AT JAPAN'S 'MILITARY FEVER'

PM301513 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[D. Kosyrev "International Notes": "Assurances and Reality"]

[Text] Is it possible to combine promises "not to turn into a military power" with a country's accelerated militarization? This clearly is not an easy task. Nevertheless, Japanese diplomacy in Southeast Asia, where there is growing concern over Tokyo's policy, is now trying to resolve just this task.

People in the American capital are content: The plans to transfer to Japan some of the police functions in Asia are being fulfilled successfully. But Japanese diplomacy is constantly having to paper over the cracks on its "southern front" -- in the countries of Southeast Asia. There the American plans to turn Japan into an Asian military power, according to the Philippine DAILY EXPRESS, "strike terror." Officials issue protests "Malyasia is opposed to Japanese ships plowing waters off the coasts of southern Asian countries," declares Ghazali bin Shafie, the country's foreign minister.

Recollections of atrocities by the Japanese occupiers during World War II are most frequently named as the chief reason for this concern. Then, as now, attempts were made to direct Tokyo's military might against the USSR. However, imperial Japan preferred to start with expansion in Southeast Asia and the Pacific.

The leaders of Asian states also fear that an "element of force" might appear in the present Japanese policy in Southeast Asia. As Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed said in an interview in the newspaper ASAHI, "we know how to distinguish signs of a new military fever, of the feeling that the Japanese have gotten that they might want to achieve their end by force."

Such sentiments in Southeast Asia now are disadvantageous to Tokyo. For Japan this region is a source of valuable raw materials, a sales market and a capital investment target. Thus, Japan purchases almost all the natural gas exported by Indonesia and 40 percent of the oil; approximately the same applies to Malaysian oil. Japanese capital investments in Southeast Asia are valued at U.S. $7 billion (second place in the region after the United States). The ever-increasing penetration of Southeast Asia by Japanese monopolies encounters a negative reaction there, as "Japanese business is opposed to the lowering of the protectionist barriers which limit access to the Japanese market for our countries' agricultural and industrial products," the Philippine BULLETIN TODAY writes.

The result of this policy is deficits in trade with Japan for those countries in the region which do not export energy raw materials (Singapore, the Philippines, Thailand).

At the same time, however, people in certain Southeast Asian capitals are reckoning on developing cooperation with Japan. This is accounted for by these countries' attachment to the world capitalist economy as a whole. Within the framework of this policy certain leaders hope to establish "fair" relations with Japan as a counterweight to the present unequal ties with their other partners -- the United States and West European countries.

Tokyo is now trying to step up its expansion in Southeast Asia by playing on these sentiments, while at the same time, as far as possible, not renouncing its methods, which arouse indignation there. However, the concern of the leaders of the countries of the region over Japan's militarization is still further complicating this task for Tokyo, which is endeavoring to allay fears and suspicions. Mainly, it is true, with words and not deeds.

The recent visit to Tokyo by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir bin Mohamed is a classic example of the state of affairs in this sphere of Japanese diplomacy. He is the leader of a country where "orientation to the East" (chiefly to Japan) is government policy. But during the visit many contradictions were revealed behind the outwardly satisfactory facade of Japanese-Malaysian relations. They failed, for example, to agree on "fair" economic relations: Tokyo essentially does not intend to abandon [its policy of] importing exclusively raw materials from Malaysia. As regards the chief issue -- the revival of Japanese militarism -- the Japanese prime minister promised: "Japan does not intend to become a military power," and his interlocutor "expressed satisfaction" with that statement. Fine words, indeed, only they are very much at variance with Tokyo's actions -- and Kuala Lumpur, of course, realizes it.

Nakasone is due to tour Southeast Asian countries at the end of April and the beginning of May. It is already clear what the thrust of that tour will be. According to the prime minister, it is to "show that he attaches special importance to that region" and to "remove all misunderstandings there about the revival of militarism in Japan." The question is whether he will succeed in doing so just with the help of new assurances....

AUCCTU DELEGATION ARRIVES IN INDIA 30 MAR

LD301425 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0930 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Delhi, 30 Mar (TASS) -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Baydashin reports: A delegation of Soviet trade unionists headed by V.I. Prokhorov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the AUCCTU, arrived in India today on a friendly visit at the invitation of the Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC). In the delegation are V.V. Kolosok, chairman of the Chelyabinsk Oblast Council of Trade Unions, and K.I. Tuzikov, staff member of the AUCCTU International Department.

The AUCCTU delegation was met at Delhi's Palam airport by Indrajit Gupta, INTUC general secretary, and Indian trade union activists. In the welcoming party was V.N. Rykov, USSR ambassador to India.

The INTUC is connected with the AUCCTU by close ties of friendship and fraternal solidarity, I. Gupta told your TASS correspondent. This visit by an AUCCTU delegation to India will promote further strengthening of fraternal ties between the trade unions of the two countries which are making a big contribution to the consolidation of friendship between the Indian and Soviet peoples.

The AUCCTU delegation will make a tour of the country, visiting the metallurgical combine in Bokaro, the heavy machine-building works in Ranchi and other projects being built as a result of Soviet-Indian cooperation.

INDIA TO LEASE SOVIET COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE

LD292117 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 29 Mar 83

[From "The World Today" program presented by political observer Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] Delhi -- The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of India has officially announced that it will cease using the American communications satellite Intelsat-5 for relaying television transmissions via space. At one time India was forced to lease this satellite after the satellite Insat-1A built earlier in the United States to meet an Indian order suddenly ceased to operate. It had a large number of defects.

Now, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting of India has decided to lease a Soviet communications satellite. By the end of this week, millions of Indian viewers will be able to see programs relayed via a Soviet satellite. Representatives of Indian television have stated that the quality of the signals broadcast by this Soviet satellite of ours is entirely to their satisfaction.

SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA ON U.S. 'OPERATION LAZAR'

LD301012 Moscow TASS in English 0737 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- "Acts of sabotage staged by Green Berets are acts of blatant interference by the Washington administration into the internal affairs of the independent countries of Indochina," Robert Serebrennikov writes in the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA today in a comment on "Operation Lazar," a military provocation staged by the C.I.A. and the Pentagon against Laos. "These acts of sabotage," the commentator charges, "demonstrate that the United States is not averse to using any means in order to disrupt the process of normalizing relations in South-east Asia."

During the operation a group of saboteurs penetrated deep into Lao territory heading for 12 facilities, whose coordinates had been supplied to them by the CIA and the intelligence directorate of the U.S. Department of Defense.

The men were commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel (Ret.) James Gritz, a former U.S. Green Beret. He had fought in Vietnam and Laos before leaving the Army in 1979 and becoming a C.I.A. mercenary.

The saboteurs were armed with Israeli submachine guns UZI and equipped with portable individual radios and special photographic cameras for taking pictures in nighttime, the comment says. They made their way in Laos at night, moving with maximum caution. During the operation the spies provoked a number of armed clashes with Lao Government troops. In one of them the group suffered losses, broke up and made a hasty retreat towards the Mekong. Leaving their weapons behind, the terrorists then fled to Thailand.

"'Operation Lazar' against Laos indicates the scope of U.S. subversive activities in Indochina," Robert Serebrennikov says. "The momentous positive changes that have taken place in that region are a source of anger to the U.S. Administration. As is known, even as far back as the May of 1981 the United States trained, equipped and covertly dispatched a contingent of mercenaries into Laos with instructions to stage a provocative act of sabotage against that country. The operation involved two groups, each 20 to 30 men strong and consisting of American 'soldiers of fortune' and Asians recruited during the U.S. aggression in South-east Asia. It was the C.I.A. that had 'operational control' over it."

THAI 'PROVOCATIONS' AGAINST KAMPUCHEA REPORTED

PM301505 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Armed Provocations"]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 29 Mar -- The Kampuchean SPK News Agency reports that Thailand is continuing its acts of armed provocation on the border with Kampuchea.

In the period 16 through 24 March Thai Air Force aircraft carried out reconnaissance flights in Kampuchea's airspace while armed Thai ships invaded Kampuchean territorial waters on dozens of occasions.

Thai artillery has frequently shelled Kampuchean border regions. Under cover of fire from the Thai side, Pol Pot supporters and other gangs from the Khmer reaction entrenched in Thailand, have made attempts to penetrate Kampuchean territory illegally. The fighters of the Republic's People's Armed Forces, SPK notes, have repelled the violators.

SHALAYEV, MSZMP'S KADAR DISCUSS TRADE RELATIONS

PM291603 Moscow TRUD in Russian 26 Mar 83 p 1

[Report by correspondent N. Yugov: "In a Cordial Atmosphere"]

[Text] Budapest [no date given] -- J. Kadar, first secretary of the MSZMP Central Committee, received here today the Soviet trade union delegation headed by AUCCTU Chairman S.A. Shalayev.

During the talk, which took place in a cordial, comradely atmosphere, there was an exchange of opinions on some questions of Soviet-Hungarian relations and the tasks of developing cooperation between the trade unions of the USSR and Hungary.

S. Gaspar, secretary general of the National Trade Union Council, and V.N. Bazovskiy, USSR ambassador to Hungary, attended the meeting.

MARCHUK, CSSR SCIENCE CHAIRMAN HOLDS TALKS

PM291105 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In the Interests of Cooperation"]

[Text] G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology, received B. Kvasil, chairman of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, on 25 March. In the course of the talk questions of further improving scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the CSSR were discussed.

PRAVDA REVIEWS POLISH ECONOMIC RECOVERY

PM301411 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[Correspondent O. Losoto dispatch: "Tomorrow is Born Out of Labor"]

[Text] Warsaw [no date given] -- I recently saw this slogan in a shop in a large Warsaw plant: "To Live Better, You Must Work Better." These simple words express the essence of many Polish problems today. One's attitude to work and to the fulfillment of one's duties is the chief measure of political maturity and of a particular person's involvement in overcoming the crisis in the country.

Of course, it would be premature to assert that the crisis has been totally surmounted and Poland has emerged onto the straight road of normal economic development. This is not yet so. There are difficulties, and considerable ones. An acute political struggle is continuing in the country against socialism's opponents and the counter-revolutionary underground. Unprecedented, unbridled propaganda aggression is being conducted against Poland. The United States and its NATO allies are essentially continuing the economic blockade of Poland.

At the same time it is also an incontestable fact that Poland is increasingly confidently resolving its complex problems. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are giving it great assistance in this. On visiting labor collectives you see how the workers' solicitous attitude to what they are doing is strengthening and gathering momentum. This has a direct influence on people's mood.

For all the heterogeneity of the picture of the country's economic development, the revival of industrial production in the second half of last year, according to the main statistical office's date for 1982, should be numbered among the reassuring phenomena. The rate of decline in national revenue has been slowed as a result. Possibilities for progress have been created.

"It will still be necessary to make a lot of effort," TRYBUNA LUDU wrote, commenting on this report, "to emerge from the crisis. The previous year did not provide a clear answer as to when this will happen, but its results show that the crisis can be overcome, that it is a feasible although difficult task."

In this connection the newspaper names two important problems facing the Polish economy. How soon the economic difficulties are overcome largely depends on resolving them. This applies, above all, to the intensification of production in the processing industry. Last year this sector, unlike the mining industry, was unable to halt the production slide, which stood at 3 percent compared with the previous year. This applies primarily to sectors producing commodities for the home market. In order to achieve appreciable growth in the processing industry's production volume, the newspaper points out, it is now necessary to devote most earnest attention to saving materials and energy.

In the second half of last year there was a significant increase in the population's monetary income, which greatly exceeds the cost of market deliveries. Inflationary processes have begun to develop as a result and are having a destructive influence on the market. Hence the second important task: To overcome the disproportion between commodity demand and supply.

The national economic plan for 1983-1985, work on which is now being completed and which was submitted to the Polish Sejm for approval, provides for a considerable step forward. In 1985 it is planned that national income will increase 16 percent compared with last year, industrial output will increase 15 percent, and agricultural output 10 percent.

"This is a realistic prospect," W. Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, said at the voivodship party conference in Katowice. "We can, however, achieve far more. Great reserves are still hidden in our people and our national economy."

The results of work in February confirmed the trend toward further growth which began in the second half of last year. Output sales in the socialized sector of industry (at fixed prices) in February 1983 were 9 percent higher than in the second month of 1982.

The extracting industry has worked well. Output in the processing industry increased 10 percent compared with February 1982. The national economy has obtained more rolled products, washing machines, passenger cars, textiles, and other commodities.

These new, reassuring signs of workdays can be seen in many of the republic's enterprises. I recall meetings at the B. Bierut metallurgical plant. It occupies a special place in the city and the voivodship. It has a large labor collective -- more than 12,500 workers. A large party organization. The plant's development, which began at a rapid pace in the postwar years, has also contributed to the city's growth. New residential districts, transport arteries and enterprises have come into being.

"We are from the Bierut," the workers say. This has a deferential tone. People are proud of their enterprise. Its collective has undergone difficult trials and is now working conscientiously and hard.

There is another important feature in the plant's biography. It has developed thanks to the Soviet Union's scientific and technical assistance.

A unique anniversary was celebrated here recently: The 10th anniversary of the sheet-rolling shop -- the biggest in the plant and constructed with our country's assistance. Armed with modern equipment and using the latest technology, the shop collective has done a lot to strengthen the entire enterprise's good name.

I should at once add here that the plant was not deeply "tied" to Western technology and materials -- and this had a beneficial effect when the West stopped deliveries. Reliance on Polish and Soviet raw materials (the enterprise obtains iron ore from the USSR) enabled the collective to work rhythmically on the whole throughout this period.

I have had many meetings and conversations at the plant. The general impression is that people take a long-term view. Of course, many problems still concern and trouble them. The plant is not an isolated island. Difficulties have not bypassed it. However, there is a place for everyone in the process of surmounting the crisis, I was told at the plant. It is not words but concrete deeds that are taken into account today.

The activeness of party organizations is gradually reviving, alhtough, as I was told in the plant's party committee, this process is taking place with certain difficulties and not at the pace they would like. The wounds inflicted have proved too deep, and it will take time to heal them.

"There are 2,100 Communists in our collective," T. Molenda, first secretary of the plant PZPR Committee, remarked. "Undoubtedly a great force. Communists are increasingly actively influencing plant affairs. The party committee seeks to promote this. A committee plenum was held recently to discuss questions of primary party organizations' ideological education work. The tasks facing our ideological and propaganda aktiv were determined."

A few words about the secretary himself. Tadeusz Molenda is a product of the steelworks. Here he passed through apprenticeship as a worker, and through economic and party school. Then he was promoted to work on the PZPR Voivodship Committee. And now he has returned once again to the plant and heads its party organization.

The B. Bierut steelworks is one of many labor collectives in Poland today which is determining the country's future by its deeds.

LCY PAPER RAPS POLITICAL NEUTRALITY OF MEDIA

PM301551 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Report by correspondent V. Sharov: "Conditions Created"]

[Text] Belgrade [no date given] -- The latest issue of the LCY organ, the weekly KOMMUNIST, analyzes the tasks stemming from the decisions of the recent party Central Committee plenums. They examined topical ideological-political problems, including the activity of the mass media.

The article notes that as a result of the plenums' work, conditions have been created for actively countering negative phenomena and tendencies in the spiritual life of society, literature and art, journalism, and publishing. A political struggle against what has been denounced as unacceptable and inimical must be waged openly, in a reasoned manner. This is a task for every LCY member and every party organization, the weekly points out.

The working people must clearly understand the aims for which the LCY acts and whom it opposes. Yet, KOMMUNIST continues, some workers of the ideological front have adopted the stance of onlookers. Individual printed organs, instead of reasoned, critical items, frequently publish ideologically neutral, entertaining items. The communists cannot overlook such instances or fail to combat them, the LCY organ writes.

U.S. TO SUPPLY FRG WITH STINGER MISSILE EQUIPMENT

LD301105 Moscow TASS in English 1042 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Washington March 30 TASS -- The Reagan administration, which has assumed a course of militarisation at home, is trying hard to impose this course on its European NATO allies. The Pentagon notified the Congress yesterday about its intention to supply West Germany with know-how and equipment for the production of 75,000 Stinger air defense missiles. It is pointed out in the Pentagon's announcement that Belgium, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, and Turkey will also take part in the production of the missiles. The cost of the deal planned by the Pentagon will be 200 million dollars.

BRANDT, BARZEL SPEECHES IN BUNDESTAG VIEWED

DW302150 Moscow in German to Germany 1700 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Valentin Sakharov commentary: "The FRG's Domestic and Foreign Policy in the Speeches of Brandt and Barzel in Bonn Bundestag"]

[Text] On Tuesday the FRG's 10th Bundestag resumed work under the chairmanship of its president, CDU [Christian Democratic Union] politican Rainer Barzel. What domestic and foreign policy problems will the new Bundestag have to deal with? Willy Brandt, opening the constituent session of the Bundestag as senior president, said the ensuring of existing jobs, the creation of new jobs, and the just distribution of burdens would be the most important problems confronting the new Parliament. Indeed, no matter how the Bundestag election results may be interpreted, the mandate of the voters regarding the economics, financial, and social welfare policies is very clear. This mandate demands that the state make a substantial contribution to boosting the economy and employment, put its finances in order, and stop ruining the social security system.

Viewing the coalition agreements of the government parties under this aspect, however, we note that they do not contain any realistic programs to bring about a recovery of the economy and the employment situation. This also has not been (?pledged) by the opposition SPD [Social Democratic Party]; it merely promises it will play the role of a constructive opposition in the Bundestag. It is obvious, therefore, that it is just as easy for the Bonn government coalition as it is for the SPD opposition to promise and preach a recovery of the economy and employment. However, they find it hard to make statements on such a recovery and initiate it by deeds. Hopefully this will change in the forthcoming government statement.

Willy Brandt in his opening speech and Rainer Barzel in his inaugural speech also broached the problem of peace. Mr Barzel stressed the Federal Republic's will to work for peace, and former Chancellor Willy Brandt expressed his large concern about the international arms race. So far so good. It is striking, however, that the concern expressed about the international arms race sounded as if the FRG did not take part in this international arms race. It is well known -- to other countries at least -- that the FRG next to the United States has the largest military expenditures per head of the population within NATO. It is a fact that NATO membership has cost the Federal Republic more than one-third of its state budget, and this over many years. Expressed in terms of working time, these military expenditures correspond to the productivity of roughly 3 million full-time workers in the FRG today. In contrast, no more than 12 people have been commissioned by the Bundestag parties and the Federal Government to deal with the problems of disarmament.

It also is a fact that the rise of the FRG to a country with a high arms production has led to a cut-throat competition among NATO's large arms producers on the arms markets. The massive export campaign for West German combat vehicles, for instance, ousted British and French competitors from the traditional West European arms markets. These facts have made the Federal Republic next to the United States a pace-maker of the international arms race.

Another fact is that the FRG was and is decisively involved in all on NATO's armament plans, including the plans and programs on the deployment of new U.S. intermediate-range missiles in the NATO countries, in particular, in the Federal Republic. At the same time, the FRG played and still plays the role of the United States' chief aide in (?obstructing) all negotiations conducted between the East and West on disarmament and the abolition of the danger of war.

It is a fact, finally, that the Bundestag so far does not have a disarmament policy. This naturally also speaks volumes. It is obvious that all this contradicts the desire of most people in the FRG for peace. Will the second government of Kohl take this into account?

USSR, GDR, W. BERLIN SIGN NATURAL GAS AGREEMENT

LD310142 Moscow TASS in English 2106 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] West Berlin March 30 TASS -- A Soviet delegation led by Nikolay Osipov, deputy foreign trade minister of the USSR, a delegation from the German Democratic Republic headed by Alexander Schalk, state secretary of the GDR's Foreign Trade Ministry and a Ruhrgas AG delegation led by chairman of its board Klaus Liesen with the participation of the West Berlin firm Gasag today completed negotiations in line with a communique of November 26, 1981 which provides, in agreement with the GDR Government, for natural gas deliveries from the Soviet Union to Berlin (West).

Following the talks, held in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere, the sides signed documents providing for Soviet natural gas deliveries to Berlin (West) via the territory of the German Democratic Republic.

The deliveries are to be started in 1985, gas will be supplied for 25 years at the annual rate of 700 million cubic metres.

The deliveries of Soviet natural gas to West Berlin will make considerable contribution to energy supplies to the city and solution of problems of environmental protection.

BRIEFS

TASS, UK PUBLISHING AGREEMENT -- Moscow March 29 TASS -- The news agency of the Soviet Union and the Pergamon Press Publishing Corporation headquartered in Oxford, Great Britain, have signed here today an agreement, envisioning the joint publication and distribution abroad of a weekly bulletin of economic and commercial news complied on the basis of Soviet sources [ECOTASS]. The bulletin will be published and distributed in English, French, German, and Italian by Pergamon Press, Oxford, Paris, Frankfurt, Rome, and New York, with the use of up-to-date computer and printing technology. The bulletin is intended for business and government organisations concerned with USSR trade and commerce. The agreement was signed by TASS Director General Sergey Losev and Pergamon Press President Robert Maxwell. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1345 GMT 29 Mar 83 LD]

LUXEMBOURG CP OFFICIAL HONORED -- Moscow March 28 TASS -- Honorary chairman of the Communist Party of Luxembourg Dominic Urbany has been awarded an Order of Lenin by decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The high Soviet award was conferred upon him, it is noted in the decree, for his active participation in the struggle against fascism, for his profound contribution to the consolidation of friendship between the people's of Luxembourg and the Soviet Union and on the occasion of his 80th birthday. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 28 Mar 83 LD]

SOVIET GOVERNMENT ISSUES STATEMENT ON MIDEAST

Tel Aviv 'Playing With Fire'

LD301514 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- "It is high time Tel Aviv stop playing with fire", says a statement of the Soviet Government which was just published here. "The Soviet Union stresses again that it is not by the force of arms, not by war, but only with the use of political efforts of all the sides concerned, through a just and all-embracing settlement that the lawful rights and interests of all Middle Eastern peoples can be ensured."

Situation 'Dangerously Strained'

LD301516 Moscow TASS in English 1511 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- "New disquieting reports are coming in from the Middle East where the situation has been already dangerously strained," says a Soviet Government statement which has just been issued here. "The military and political figures of Israel vie with one another in statements about inevitability of a preventive war against Syria and about the Israeli Army's preparedness for it. Military preparations are being conducted in Israel undisguisedly with a view to delivering a piratic strike at Syria."

Text of Statement

LD301539 Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- Follows the full text of the Soviet Government's statement:

"New alarming reports are coming from the Middle East where the situation has been already dangerously strained. The military and political figures of Israel vie with one another in statements about the inevitability of a preventive war against Syria and about the Israeli Army's preparedness for it. Military preparations are being conducted in Israel undisguisedly with the aim of delivering a piratic strike at Syria.

"And again, as was repeatedly done in the past, attempts are being made to justify those aggressive designs by pleading a certain concern for the defence of the security of Israel. The purely defensive measures taken by Syria in the face of growing threats on the part of Tel Aviv are now being used as a plea this time.

"The hypocrisy of the Israeli expansionists knows no bounds. Quite recently on the same plea of defending security they staged the barbarous aggression against Lebanon, killed tens of thousands of civilians and virtually occupied the greater part of that sovereign country. This time they are sharpening their knives against Syria.

"No one will believe that there is any threat to Israel's security. Quite the contrary, it is precisely Israel that is a constant source of war danger in the Middle East, constantly threatening neighbouring Arab countries with arms.

"That it is now intended to strike a blow at Syria is connected with the fact that Syria is the main obstacle on the road of the implementation of the annexationist designs of the Tel Aviv leadership. To break Syria, to make it renounce opposing the imperialist and Zionist intrigues is the long standing aim of Tel Aviv, and not of Tel Aviv alone.

"When the Israeli military sweeps Arab lands with fire and sword, everybody knows that that sword was put in its hands by Washington. The strategic agreement of Washington and Tel Aviv resulted in countless victims and grave sufferings for the Arab peoples.

"Washington's unconditional support for the Israeli claims is the reason behind the impudent stubbornness with which Israel is trying to get the "reward" for its continued aggression -- to compel the Arabs to put up with its consequences, to deprive the Arab people of Palestine of the possibility to exercise its lawful national rights."

"With the United States consent Israel is entrenching itself on occupied Lebanese land and hoping to keep it under its heel one way or another. Ultimatum conditions are being dictated to Lebanon. Israel is even imposing on it a vice regent, its toady Haddad, a traitor of the Lebanese people. Moreover, plans of establishing a joint military-political domination of the United States and Israel over the whole of the Middle East are being worked out and implemented. There is a threat also for somebody else to find himself harnessed in the U.S.-Israeli chariot.

"It is not accidental at all that the heightening of the anti-Syrian war hysteria in Israel is accompanied by the widening of the United States political, military and financial aid to its partner. Just a few days ago the delivery of a new large consignment of armaments to Israel was announced in Washington.

"It is planned to supply Israel with an additional batch of most up-to-date F-16 and F-15 fighter bombers.

"Nobody can be indifferent to Israel's criminal designs towards Syria, and these designs must be foiled. The Syrian people is not alone. On the side of the Syrian people are Arab patriots, the socialist countries, all who cherish the cause of peace, justice and honour.

"For Tel Aviv it is time to stop playing with fire. The Soviet Union emphasizes once again that the legitimate rights and interests of all peoples of the Middle East can be ensured not through the force of arms, not through war, but only through political efforts of all the parties concerned, through a fair, comprehensive settlement."

PRAVDA Comparison of Statement

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 March First Editon carries on page 1 the Soviet Government statement on the Middle East. The statement in PRAVDA entitled "Soviet Government Statement" has been compared with the Moscow TASS English version published above, revealing the following variations:

Page H 1, paragraph three, last line in PRAVDA reads: ...used as a pretext this time... (changing wording)

Paragraph four line one in PRAVDA reads: ...bounds. Quite recently under the same cover of defending security... (changing wording)

Same paragraph, line three in PRAVDA reads: ...virtually occupied the greater part ["bolshuyu chast" -- published in PRAVDA without the accent indicating stress]... (supplying vernacular)

Paragraph five, last line in PRAVDA reads: ...Arab countries with armed reprisals... (changing wording)

Paragraph six, line two in PRAVDA reads: ...implementation of the annexationist [zakhvatnicheskiy] designs of the... (supplying vernacular)

Page H 2, paragraph three, penultimate line reads in PRAVDA: ...out and implemented. Other people are also threatened by the fate of finding themselves harnessed to the U.S.-Israeli chariot.... (rewording)

ISRAEL PREPARING 'PERFIDIOUS ATTACK' ON SYRIA

PM301507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 5

[Dispatch by Rafail Moseyev under the rubric "Commentator's Column": "Preparing for Aggression"]

[Text] Beirut [no date given] -- Tel Aviv is not ceasing its saber-rattling and is continuing intensive preparation for aggression against Syria. The Beirut and Damascus press write with alarm of the dangerous concentration of Israeli troops in the occupied part of the Al-Biqa' Valley. The Israelis are creating strongholds there all along the line of confrontation with Syrian subunits from the pan-Arab forces.

According to the newspaper AS-SAFIR the occupiers recently brought in new armored subunits to the region of the population center of Kamid al-Lawz. The Israeli forces are regrouping in the regions of Hasbani, Jubb Jannin, and 'Ayn Arab. On the summit of Mount Baruk the interventionists have installed a powerful radar station.

According to the newspaper AN-NAHAR the Israelis have carried out a series of military maneuvers near the Syrian border over the course of the past few days. In addition to infantry, artillery units and tanks took part. During the exercises there was a rehearsal of "preventive" strikes against the Syrian positions.

The escalation of militarist preparations is being effected in an atmosphere of the fueling of military hysteria. Not a day passes without some high-ranking Tel Aviv official producing another helping of threats against Syria and its people. The steps Damascus has been taking recently to consolidate its air defense facilities have become a subject for the aggressors' particular "indignation," although it is well known that these measures are of a strictly defensive nature. It is notable that the U.S. Administration is joining this campaign of overt political blackmail and pressure increasingly frequently.

The anti-Syrian hysteria unleashed in Tel Aviv and Washington and the practical aggressive preparations against Syria are pursuing far-reaching goals, former Lebanese President Sulayman Franjiyah stated. This hysteria, according to its authors' design, should divert international public attention from U.S.-Israeli expansionist plans in this region.

That is why now that the aggressor, entrenched in south Lebanon, is preparing a perfidious attack on sovereign Syria. The peoples of Arab countries are calling for vigilance in the face of Tel Aviv's intrigues and for active support for the Soviet Union's initiatives aimed at restoring long-awaited peace in this region.

ISRAEL 'INTENDS TO ANNEX SOUTHERN LEBANON'

LD300937 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 29 Mar 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Rafael Arutyunov]

[Text] A report emanating from Tel Aviv confirms that Israel intends to annex southern Lebanon. This is clear from a statement made by Israeli Foreign Minister Shamir, who said that agent Haddad must become the commander of the forces of southern Lebanon. One must point to the insolence featured in this statement: The appointment of a commander of the armed forces in southern Lebanon or in any other part of Lebanon is the jurisdiction of the Lebanese Government and no one else. Israel's attempt to impose its diktat is a flagrant violation of Lebanon's sovereignty and an interference in its internal affairs. However, the matter is not confined to this alone. Who is Major Haddad? He is no longer Lebanese, and could be rightly described as totally Israeli.

He might even have the right to Israeli citizenship because he and his units earn their living from Tel Aviv. It is not by chance that Haddad had the ceremonies in Israel presenting military awards to Israeli militarymen who excelled in the barbaric war in Lebanon. He was honored, if one can use this expression, because he loyally serves the Israeli aggressors. The command of the forces in southern Lebanon -- the goal that Tel Aviv is seeking -- means total Israeli control over this part of Lebanon. It goes without saying that the Lebanese Government does not approve of this at all. Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil said his country strongly opposes the handing over of control of southern Lebanon to the armed units belonging to Haddad. Moreover, he also rejected any presence of the forces of occupation in these areas.

U.S.-ISRAELI INTELLIGENCE EXCHANGE VIEWED

PM301455 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by V. Matveyev under the rubric "Political Observer's Opinion": "One Good Turn Deserves Another"]

[Text] It is reported that Arens, the new Israeli defense minister, has personally made efforts to expedite an accord with Washington under which Israel will provide the relevant U.S. departments with "information obtained during the war in Lebanon," that is, will share the "experience" of its piratical operations. Arens knows what Washington wants. He was Israeli ambassador to the United States and has detailed information on Pentagon plans.

Speaking in Delhi at the seventh conference of nonaligned heads of state and government, PLO Executive Chairman Yasir 'Arafat pointed out that during the Israeli aggression against Lebanon, 32 Lebanese cities and villages and 3 major cities -- Tyre, Sidon and an-Nabatiyah -- were totally or partially destroyed. In addition to the enormous material damage the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples lost 72,000 civilians, killed or wounded.

That is the "experience" which the organizers of this war are sharing with those from whom they obtained such lethal equipment for their bloody operations: THE NEW YORK TIMES recently pointed out that "Israel used in Lebanon over 100 weapons systems developed by the Americans which have never before been used in full-scale operations." The transatlantic accomplices of the genocide perpetrated by the Zionist ruling clique in Lebanon will now receive detailed information from Israel relating to the "technological aspect" of the excess perpetrated.

And, as always, one good turn deserves another. Arens had no time to address a press conference in Jerusalem to announce the accord reached with the United States before Washington announced that Israel had been supplied with a new U.S. arms consignment. It is a case of deliveries of 200 air-to-air Sidewinder missiles to the Israeli military.

U.S. ruling circles are flagrantly ignoring the unanimous appeal of the nonaligned forum in Delhi to put an end to the bloody lawlessness perpetrated by the Israeli military in the Near East.

When U.S. Defense Secretary C. Weinberger was asked in late February whether the United States would conclude an agreement with Israel on the exchange of intelligence he said: "We have hundreds of them there. We have concluded at least 24 agreements with Israel."

In practice that means that Israeli ruling circles do not take a step without coordinating their actions with official Washington. The limit to this tie-up has still not been reached if we are to judge from recent reports from Washington.

Thus, the press points out that U.S. Secretary of State Shultz is personally working now on devising the "foundations" for even closer military and political cooperation between the United States and Israel. Next year Israel is to receive various subsidies, credits and so forth from the United States worth a total of $5 billion. In exchange, as we can see, the Pentagon, the CIA and other Washington Government departments are counting on securing the even more prompt coordination of the two countries' actions, primarily against the Arab states, but not just them. It is well known how actively Tel Aviv supports the racist ruling clique of the Republic of South Africa in its increasingly blatant encroachments on the vital interests not only of the indigenous population of that country but also of other African countries.

Expediting plans to create the "Rapid Deployment Force" and to use them against the national liberation movements in various parts of the world, Washington wants to "enrich itself" with the relevant information from its Israeli stooges. The expansion of the scales of U.S. material and political support to the most extremist bellicose Tel Aviv circles has one further aspect. The point is that this policy is attended by the expenditure of enormous funds. It is causing mounting tension within Israel. Never before have Israel's finances been in such a difficult situation as now. Never in the entire history of that country's existence have so many people there been worried by this course on the government's part. Hence the magnitude of the antiwar demonstrations by various strata of the country's population, particularly the youth. Ferment can be observed even in the Israeli Army.

Under these conditions the enormous injections of dollars from across the ocean are enabling Begin and company to hold on to the reins of government and to plan dangerous new militarist actions fraught with the danger of fatal new consequences for the Israeli people. The war in Lebanon was by no means a "pleasure trip" for Israel, as its organizers had reckoned. How many wives and mothers are mourning their dear ones. Even more people are feeling the economic burden of financing the adventure. In this situation Washington is continuing to rush to assist its accomplices and accessories in steering its aggressive course.

EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CITED ON PEACE TREATY

LD282058 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary from the "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali has admitted that the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty has failed to lead to a comprehensive Middle East settlement. The Egyptian minister said that this objective has not been achieved due to Israel's intransigence and its endeavor to annex the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Dr Butrus Ghali also said that the peaceful settlement process initiated by the concluding of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty has been stopped because of Israel's invasion of Lebanon last June and the annexation of east Jerusalem and the Golan Heights. At the same time Dr Butrus Ghali justified the concluding of the treaty with Israel on the grounds that it has enabled Egypt to retrieve Sinai, even though not completely because Israel has on fact annexed the Taba region.

There is no harm in adding that it was clear from the beginning of the Camp David deal, which led to the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli treaty, that Washington and Tel Aviv were thinking only of how to take Egypt out of the common Arab front of struggle against aggression, to bring it under American-Israeli domination, to secure its rear lines to the West and to continue with the policy of aggression and occupation. The 4 years that have passed since the signing of the treaty have also shown that this document has been used by Washington to introduce American ground forces into Egyptian territory. This has set the beginning of a growing American military presence in the Middle East in general.

EDITORIAL SCORES U.S. CENTRAL AMERICAN POLICY

PM301051 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 29 Mar Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Peace and Independence for Central America!"]

[Text] They burst into Nicaragua, their former motherland, like bandits into a stranger's house. Their new masters had hastened to adopt what had been dinned into their consciousness by the deposed tyrant, Somoza -- malice and hatred toward the people. In camps in Florida in the United States and in neighboring Honduras the dictator's surviving "guards" were kept in a deep trance of anticommunism while the Pentagon specailists hastily taught them the science of killing. The Somozaist cutthroats learned these lessons well: a thick, bloody trail marks their invasion of Nicaraguan soil.

The Sandinist revolution expelled them from the country. The onslaught of the insurgent people was so resolute and powerful that, despite all its intrigues, the United States was unable to keep its faithful Somoza clan on the dictator's throne. Nonetheless, initially Washington still had a glimmer of hope -- of diverting the course of events into the required channel with the aid of bourgeois politickery. Has this not always been the case in their Central American "backyards" where the descendants of the local oligarchies -- in the guise of "liberals" or, more frequently, in military uniform -- betrayed the people to suit imperialist interests?

For decades the United States felt confident in this region. The subsidiaries of the dollar empires like the United Fruit Company did not even bother to conceal their monopoly diktat. Presidents and ministers were changed at their will, coups were organized and interventions perpetrated, as was the case, for instance, in 1954 when the forces of the reaction under CIA auspices overthrew the progressive Arbenz government in Guatemala. U.S. ambassadors behaved like colonial governors here: not a step could be taken in "big politics" without their royal permission.

That was neocolonialism in the American manner. No one was concerned for the people's destiny or the bitter lot of millions of workers; they were seen only as cheap manpower without rights, designed to uncomplainingly fill the U.S. financial aces' safes with profits. Not for nothing was United Fruit called a state within a state: On its estates justice and punishment were meted out to people under the laws of the mother country.

Washington's top echelons of power believed that the U.S. bastions of power and influence, guarded by the bayonets of the local military, had made themselves secure forever. But it turned out that this was all the fruit of political shortsightedness.

The winds of social renewal that rose over the entire Latin American continent also reached the domains of U.S. imperialism in that part of the world. The revolutionary liberation process in Latin America is developing exceptionally rapidly. The Cuban people win a historical victory, having chosen the path of socialism. Somoza's harsh tyranny perishes in the flames of the people's uprising and a free republic of Nicaragua, looking toward the future is born. The Salvadoran patriots have taken up arms to win the right to a new, happy life. The people of Grenada are throwing off the fetters of dependence. The hotbeds of the partisan movement on Guatemalan soil are multiplying. The Panamanian people are achieving important gains, resolutely advocating the abolition of the U.S. colonial enclave in the Canal Zone.... Central America is on the move.

The objective course of history is driving the U.S. political strategists into a corner. And, in defending themselves against the inexorable demands of the time, they cannot counter social progress with anything except antediluvian, pitiful propaganda theses built on the purest deception.

Reeking of mothballs, the base myth of "the hand of Moscow and Havana" is being dragged out again -- for the hundredth or thousandth time! As during the "dirty war" in Vietnam, the absurdly primitive "domino theory" is becoming fashion: The destinies of entire peoples are shamelessly compared with dominoes falling one after the other in an attempt to use this cheap means to intimidate the Americans and extort from their pockets further millions of dollars for military needs.

The same propaganda din over the imaginary "Soviet-Cuban interference," which repels even many of the United States' Western partners by its ineptitude, has again been raised by Washington with the sole aim of trying to find at least some justification for its crude interventionist course in Central America. Clearly the White House's ideological deposts simply could not find another, more appropriate method.

Indeed it must be said that in general the Reagan administration -- in contrast to its predecessors -- is not seeking anything new in its Latin American policy. The fragments of the Washington "doctrines" that once camouflaged U.S. imperialist actions with phony stories about "representative democracy" and "equal partnership" have been gradually jettisoned without any particular fuss. The aggressive bellicosity of the "Monroe Doctrine" and the overt gendarme credo of former President Theodore Roosevelt who at the beginning of this century menacingly brandished the "big stick" to warn his obstinate southern neighbors are far closer to the spirit of the present Washington leaders.

But in our day you cannot so readily send gunboats and Marines south of the Rio Grande. And the former imperial ambitions are being converted to the modern style: The emigre counterrevolutionary rabble is being gathered under the CIA's roof and is being incited and armed through Pentagon channels; what is essentially a regular army of aggression is being knocked together and sent against the Nicaraguan people. Resurrecting under these conditions the colonialists' well-known "divide and rule" slogan, they are pushing the Honduran military toward a war with Nicaragua. And nearby, in long-suffering El Salvador, they are saving from death a corrupt antipopular regime that -- and the Pentagon specialists themselves admit this -- would be unable to stay in power without multimillion dollar handouts, modern combat equipment and military advisers dispatched from the United States.

All along its foreign policy's Latin American flank the White House is noisily brandishing its weapons, counting on intimidating the continent's peoples. A particularly large threat looms over the Republic of Nicaragua, which has become the target for manifold subversive activity by the United States. This imperialist challenge has been met in the country with heightened revolutionary vigilance and the consolidated unity of a people ready to give all their efforts and their very lives to defend their motherland.

In these difficult days all progressive mankind is on the side of the struggling Nicaraguan patriots. In a talk with D. Ortega, member of the National Directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front and coordinator of the junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, expressed the certainty that Nicaragua will be able to defend its freedom and independence and stated the sincere solidarity of the Soviet Union and all Soviet people with the Nicaragua people in their just cause.

The process of social renewal that now determines Central America's development is irreversible. It can be halted neither by bayonets nor dollars. The future belongs to it.

U.S. POLICY IN NICARAGUA ASSAILED AS 'AGGRESSION'

Honduras-Based 'Multipurpose Adventure'

PM301131 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 5

[A. Cherepanov "International Commentary": "The Tracks Lead to Washington"]

[Text] As has already been reported, about 1,500 former Somozan "guardsmen," armed to the teeth with American weapons, have invaded the Nicaraguan departments of Nueva Segovia, Matagalpa and Jinotega from Honduran territory. But even though more and more reinforcements are approaching the counterrevolutionaries, they have not succeeded in breaking through the heart of the country. One interventionist group has been surrounded and almost completely destroyed. A second Somozan detachment has also run up against a powerful screening force and is retreating. In sum, the surviving bands of Somoza followers have already lost a quarter of their personnel and are continuing to suffer heavy losses. The Nicaraguan command has strengthened the defense of population centers, where self-defense detachments have been created from among the local inhabitants. In all combat operation regions the people's masses are offering vigorous support to the government forces.

It is quite obvious that this invasion of Nicaragua exceeds the limits of the usual armed provocations, of which there have already been about 30 in this year alone. It is a question of interventionist actions carefully prepared and planned in advance in Washington and Tegucigalpa. It is noted that the invasion is on a large scale and that it is being reinforced by the transfer of several battalions of Honduran regular forces to the Nicaraguan frontiers. There is information that the Honduran Air Force planes are supplying the invading Somozan forces with equipment and ammunition.

The interventionist actions against Nicaraguan should be regarded as a multipurpose adventure by American imperialism and its minions. On the one hand it is the latest manifest attempt to blackmail and destabilize the republic's revolutionary government and, to a certain extent, an attempt to distract world public attention from events in El Salvador, where patriots are conducting vigorous offensive actions against the puppet regime's forces. On the other hand, and this perhaps presents the greatest danger, the purpose of fighing counterrevolutionaries into Nicaraguan territory lies in the fact that the United States wishes to make use of the Somozan forces' actions to foment armed conflict between Nicaragua and Honduras.

The threat of military confrontation between the two Central American states is entirely real. On the 17 bases in Honduras situated along the frontier zone with Nicaragua there are about 5,000 former Somozan National Guardsmen trained by Pentagon advisers. An inexhaustible stream of money and arms flows here from the banks of the Potomac. This counterrevolutionary rabble has now been transformed into a real army. But this force, in the service of and maintained by reaction, is only part of the anti-Nicaraguan machine that Washington controls.

In the given specific situation the White House is placing its main stake on the reactionary regime of Honduras, which with vigorous U.S. assistance, is being transformed into a regional gendarme. Over the last 2 years the Honduran military has received almost $200 million from the United States and its armed forces have grown from 5,000 in 1980 to 25,000. American strategists, sometimes doling out dollars, sometimes admonishing and sometimes also simply intimidating people with the "communist threat," are increasingly pushing Honduras into direct armed confrontation with Nicaragua. Honduras, judging by all accounts, is being forces into the role of pulling its master's chestnuts out of the fire.

The Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction has delivered a resolute protest to the Honduran authorities at the armed provocations on the frontier between the two countries.

In a situation where Nicaragua is opposing the invasion of counterrevolutionary groups based in Honduras, a Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry note says, such provocations correspond completely to the U.S. Government's militarist plans aimed at destroying the Nicaraguan revolution.

A real threat hangs over Nicaragua today. The invasion by Somozan bands with the direct blessing and support of Washington is nothing other than a new stage of U.S. military, political and economic aggression against the Sandanist revolution. But the Nicaraguan people are fully determined to deliver a fitting rebuff to the interventionists and their protectors.

'Criminal' Violation, Aggression

LD260034 Moscow TASS in English 1612 GMT 25 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 25 TASS -- TASS commentator Ruslan Knyazev writes: As is reported from Washington, State Department Spokesman Alan Romberg evaded an answer to a journalist's question if the U.S. Administration was giving support to the Somozistas who had made an incursion into Nicaraguan territory.

It is not by chance that the highly-placed diplomat, who is responsible for the State Department's relations with the press, preferred "to fail to hear" on that occasion the reporter who was pressing for the answer: To claim that official Washington has no links with the stalwarts of the former Nicaraguan dictator would be wasting his breath as it is known to the whole world that they are financially maintained by the U.S. Government. It was precisely under the Reagan administration's instructions and with its money that surviving Somoza National Guardsmen, who had gone abroad fleeing popular wrath, were gathered in special camps in U.S. territory, armed, trained and then moved to Honduras and posted near the Nicaraguan border.

The press, first of all that in the United States, has long reported these facts, providing such details as the names of the camps and their geographical locations as well as the number of Somozista armed formations and the names of C.I.A. and Pentagonite instructors who trained them. At that time the bandits did not even try to conceal the fact that they were preparing for action to overthrow the lawful government of Nicaragua. On the contrary, they wanted the whole world to know their plans and publicised them in every way, including at press conferences in Washington.

This makes one raise the question of international law (which they in the White House are so fond of speaking about on every occasion) as one of the most esential of its established norms in relations between sovereign states is to prevent hostile actions in one's territory against another state. [sentence as received] This also makes one raise the question [word indistinct] domestic legislation as the U.S. law on neutrality bans any activity in U.S. territory with a view to overthrowing governments, with which the United States is not at war.

One cannot deny the criminal violation by the United States of these legal norms. What catches the eye in this case is that the matter is not just connivance of crime but most active involvement in it, for the mercenary army of counter-revolutionary Somozistas was not only trained in U.S. territory but was also raised and prepared for the inroad into [word indistinct] Central Intelligence Agency acting on a special order issued by President Reagan himself. Washington's clumsy attempts to evade responsibility will mislead nobody. The main culprit for the criminal aggression against sovereign Nicaragua is the Administration of the United States.

'Fairy Tales' Invented

LD291636 Moscow TASS in English 1544 GMT 29 Mar 83

["Alan Romberg's Fairy Tales" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 29 TASS -- TASS commentator Sergey Kudryavsky writes: Alan Romberg, a spokesmen for the U.S. State Department, has to do no easy job -- to present black for white, that is try to convince the public that the USA is to not [as received] involved in the activities of the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries. Addressing a press conference on Monday, he claimed that the USA had made it clear that it would not support any return to a Somozist government in Nicaragua.

For whom is that statement designed? Who will believe such claims? As it is common knowledge that the United States is doing its utmost to reverse things to the times when Nicaragua was plundered by the U.S. monopolies, and that country's real master was the U.S. ambassador to Managua. It is an open secret that after the victory of the Sandinist revolution the Somozist gangs found refuge precisely in the USA.

The American press repeatedly reported the existence in Florida and California of special camps for the military training of Sonozist cutthroats. Later, those gangs were sent to Honduras for launching an invasion of Nicaragua. The USA has appropriated 19 million dollars, which was also reported in the U.S. press, for the CIA's subversive activities against Nicaragua. The terrorists, who invaded Nicaragua from Honduras, are also armed with American weapons, and they in the Pentagon cannot deny that. It is also known that a large consignment of those weapons was specially supplied to counter-revolutionaries during the recent joint American-Honduran exercises held near the Nicaraguan border.

The invasion of Nicaragua was carefully planned by the CIA. It is precisely the agents of that Washington agency in Honduras, whose number is now over 200, who are in command of the subversive operations. Their activities, as the NEWSWEEK magazine said, are controlled by none other than John Negroponte the U.S. ambassador in Tegucigalpa, whose career started in Saigon during the war in Vietnam. Another well-informed American TIME magazine stresses that there is no doubt that the Reagan administration is most directly involved in the current developments in Nicaragua.

Can Alan Romberg be uninformed about these facts? There is no doubt that he is informed, and very well too, about all that. But in his official capacity he has to put a good face on the matter, invent fairy tales about U.S. non-interference in Nicaragua's home affairs. But this is, after all, his job...

NICARAGUAN MINISTER: ANDROPOV TALKS 'POSITIVE'

PM301459 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "High Assessment"]

[Text] Managua, 29 Mar -- Nicaraguan Foreign Minister M. d'Escoto described the meeting between D. Ortega, member of the Sandinist National Liberation Front National Directorate and coordinator of the junta of the Nicaraguan Government of National Reconstruction, and Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as "positive in the highest degree." The talks between the two countries' leaders, the minister told a TASS correspondent, strengthened still further the fraternal relations which exist between our peoples. The results of the Kremlin meeting, D'Escoto said, once again confirmed the Soviet people's good will and readiness for equal, mutually advantageous cooperation on the basis of the noble principles of mutual respect and noninterference in internal affairs.

MARX ANNIVERSARY MEETING HELD IN MOSCOW 30 MARCH

Andropov, Other Leaders Attend

LD301520 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] A festive session dedicated to the 165th anniversary of the birth and the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx was held today at the Bolshoy theatre in Moscow. In the hall were representatives of the capital's working class, agricultural workers from Moscow Oblast, party veterans, scientists, cultural personalities, and personnel of the Soviet Army. Heads of diplomatic missions from the socialist countries were also present. With a stormy and prolonged standing ovation, the participants in the festive session greeted Comrades Andropov, Aliyev, Gorbachev, Grishin, Gromyko, Tikhonov, Ustinov, Chernenko, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Rusakov, and Ryzhkov. The festive session was opened by Comrade Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom. A report entitled "Marx's Teaching Is a Guide to Action" was delivered by Boris Nikolayevich Ponomarev, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Video of Soviet Leadership

LD302014 [Editorial Report] Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian at 1800 GMT on 30 March, in its evening Vremya newscast, carries a 20-minute video report on the festive session dedicated to the 165th anniversary of Marx' birth and the 100th anniversary of his death in Moscow on 30 March. The report begins by showing the audience applauding as Grishin, Andropov, Tikhonov, and Chernenko are shown entering the hall and taking their places in the presidium. The presidium seating arrangement is as follows:

First row, from left to right: Ponomarev, Aliyev, Gorbachev, Ustinov, Gromyko, Chernenko, Tikhonov, Andropov, Grishin, and other unidentified individuals.

In the second row, from left to right: Shalayev, Rusakov, Zimyanin, Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Kuznetsov, Arkhipov, Yepishev, Yasnov, Corvalan, and Arismendi.

In the third row, from left to right: Pastukhov, Dymshits, and Smirnov.

And in the fourth row: Marchuk and Ruben.

Grishin shown opening the session and Ponomarev is shown reading the report, with cuts to various shots of the presidium and the audience.

Toward the end of the session there are full shots of Andropov and other presidium members standing and singing the Internationale and finally, applauding.

Grishin Remarks

PM311115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Mar 83 First Edition p 1

[TASS report on 30 March meeting held at Moscow's Bolshoy Theater to commemorate the 165th anniversary of the birth and the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx: "Genius Thinker, Fervent Revolutionary"]

[Excerpt] The festive meeting was opened by V.V. Grishin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Moscow CPSU Gorkom.

In these days the communists of all countries and progressive mankind, he said, are marking the 165th anniversary of the birth and 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx, founder of scientific communism, genius thinker, fervent revolutionary, leader [vozhd] and teacher of the world's proletariat.

Karl Marx' name has entered forever the history of the heroic revolutionary struggle waged by the working class and all working people. Marx devoted his entire life to the liberation of working people from the rule of capital and created a great revolutionary teaching which armed the working class ideologically and showed it the goals and means of the struggle for the revolutionary renovation of the world.

The teaching created by Marx in cooperation with Engels and developed under new historic conditions by V.I. Lenin is now marching victoriously over the planet. Marxism-Leninism has become a mighty accelerator of social progress.

The Soviet people pay respect to the memory of Karl Marx, the selfless fighter for the happiness of working people. With their selfless struggle they are successfully realizing the great ideals of Marxism-Leninism. Under the leadership of the Communist Party and its Central Committee our country's working people will continue to march unwaveringly along the path mapped out by Marx and Lenin, the path of the building of communism.

Ponomarev Address

LD302131 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 30 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast; report "The Doctrine of Marx Is a Guide to Action" delivered by CPSU Central Committee Politburo Candidate Member, Central Committee Secretary Boris Ponomarev at the festive meeting in Moscow on 30 March on the occasion of the 165th anniversary of Marx' birth and the 100th anniversary of his death -- recorded]

[Text] Dear comrades, it has been a considerable time since Karl Marx created the doctrine that immortalized his name. [video of Ponomarev speaking, with shots of audience and presidium]

We are living in an era, which -- as Vladimir Ilich Lenin foresaw -- has brought the greatest triumph to this doctrine. Before our eyes the greatest revolutionary transformations have taken place and are taking place. The social and class nature of many states, the living conditions and way of life of the majority of the peoples have changed radically. Mankind has never before known changes of such a scale.

In the 20th century the fiery tornado of two world wars swept the earth. But the 20th century became the century of the Great October Socialist Revolution, which put an end to a system in which one ruling class was replaced by another and exploitation and oppression remained.

The development of human society steeply turned toward socialism, which forever abolishes exploitation and oppression, the rule of the minority over the majority. Socialism has shown its invincible strength in fierce skirmishes with imperialism, which tried to turn back history. Having routed German fascism and Japanese militarism, the first country of socialism has helped other peoples in their struggles for freedom and independence, and has made a decisive contribution to the creation of favorable conditions for further world-wide progress.

The revolutions in Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Romania, Yugoslavia, Vietnam, China, Korea, Cuba, and Laos turned socialism into a world system. Along the revolutionary path, also in the socialist direction, are marching: Angola, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, the PDRY, Mozambique, and a few other countries.

For centuries mankind has suffered from exploitation, national, and racial oppression, from extirpating [istrebitelnyy] and destructive wars.

For the first time Marx disclosed the social sources of these acions and, most importantly, revealed the material foundations and objective possibilities for getting rid of them. His immortal achievement is that he discovered objective laws for the development of society and created a science on how to fight and gain a victory over capitalism, on how to create a new socialist system.

But Marx was not only a scientist of genius. He devoted his whole life to turning the science he created into a means for liberating the working class. Marx was first of all a revolutionary, Engels said about his great friend. He looked on science as a powerful lever of history, as a revolutionary force in the loftiest sense of this word.

In the new era, through the genius of Lenin, scientific socialism was lifted to a new height. In the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, with the fraternal communist parties, the capability for creative development, primordially enshrined in it, has been irrefutably proved. As a result, all social development is under the growing influence of the eternally alive Marxist-Leninist doctrine. History has progressed, is progressing, and will progress according to Marx and according to Lenin. [applause]

Comrades, Marx' theses on the working class' historic role fully justified themselves. The working class has proved in practice its capability for putting an end to the system of capitalist exploitation, leading the peoples' struggle for freedom and equality, and ensuring the victory of socialism,

Marx' ideas about the role of Communists; proletarian parties, and the communist movement in the revolutionary transformation of society have been completely corroborated. Great Lenin was guided by them in creating his doctrine about the new type of party. They have became part of the world communist movement's golden fund.

At the present time Communist Parties are functioning in almost 100 countries. Many of them have become ruling parties. A number of parties have become mass parties. Communists are now acting as a really world-wide force. Their total number is no longer a few hundred as in Marx's time, but over 70 million. But the communists' tasks and responsibility for using the entire present-day revolutionary potential have also become immeasurably greater and more complex.

Comrades, the general conclusion from the whole of Marx's teaching is that the victory of socialism and communism is inevitable.

We have a right to be proud that the first victorious socialist revolution took place in our country -- that the Russian proletariat, led by the Leninist party, built the path to socialism for mankind.

The ideas put forward by Marx and turned into an integral theory by Vladimir Ilich Lenin are at the foundation of socialist construction in the USSR. The party's strategic course at the present stage is the all-round perfecting of developed socialist society on the basis of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress; and the decisions of the November CPSU Central Committee plenum aim for this. Quite a lot has already been done in execution of these decisions. We can all see what large-scale work the Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo, and all party organizations have undertaken in the cardinal directions of the country's development at the present stage.

Life confirms again and again that the CPSU's strength lies in its very deep and indissoluble link with the people -- in fact that it has no other concerns than the people's interests and needs. [applause]

Comrades, the party solves economic, social, and political development problems in a way that is inseparably interlinked with its ideological and educational work.

Raising the masses' ideological awareness is now especially closely tied to the introduction of a truly economy-minded attitude to labor and high procuction standards that are in line with modern requirements. To a great extent this will be determined by a firm resolve to put an end to breaches of discipline and order; manifestations such as squandering, bribery, parasitism, and embezzlement; and all ways of living at the expense of the people. As you know, the party has announced a resolute fight against the violators of socialist principles in order to free society from the inheritance of capitalism -- from the shirkers, parasites, and embezzlers of public property -- as Lenin demanded. The entire people support the party in this. [applause]

Comrades, the perfection of socialism in the USSR is an inseparable and most important part of the growth and consolidation of the entire socialist world's position. The key features of the world community of emancipated labor about which Marx and Engels dreamed can be seen in the socialist community and the multifarious experience it has amassed. The firmness of its international positions and socialism's authority cannot be separated from socialist internationalism.

The founders of scientific socialism elucidated the causes and sources of the danger of war. This has played, and plays a tremendous role in organizing the struggle to get rid of aggressive wars. Marx wrote that of all the dogmas of hypocritical policy, not one has caused as many disasters as the dogma proclaiming that if one wants peace, one must prepare for war. This great truth, he went on to say, is mainly distinguished by the fact that it contains a great falsehood and is declared as a war cry, which has called all Europe to arms.

Indeed, at the present time this great falsehood is at the foundation of the policy of the American Administration, which trumpets at every corner that the United States' military buildup allegedly serves the cause of peace. Precisely this is being reiterated by the American President.

In actual fact this conceals a striving to upset the military strategic parity, to achieve military superiority over the USSR, and deprive it of the capacity to inflict a retaliatory strike in the event of nuclear aggression. The Soviet Union will never permit this; it will never find itself unarmed in the face of any threat. This was stated with all decisiveness by Comrade Andropov in response to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions. [applause]

The vital interests of our homeland and the socialist community and the need to defend the gains of socialism oblige us, of course, to be fully armed and to possess a powerful defense.

As stated in the decisions of our party and the Soviet Government, the Soviet Union has always been and will be against regarding the stockpiling of nuclear bombs and missiles as the path to peace. No, it is only a renunciation of the use of nuclear weapons and of first nuclear strike doctrines, and a halt to the arms race that serve the cause of the peace. This, comrades, is why there has been such a broad response in all countries to the proposals by the Warsaw Pact countries and the constructive realistic initiatives put forward by Comrade Andropov.

We are now living at a time when the threat of a world war is growing and the forces able to prevent it are growing simultaneously. The CPSU takes this into account in its foreign policy and in the ideological struggle on the international arena. It will continue to unmask the plans of imperialism and its tactics, proving by its words and deeds that the Soviet Union proceeds from the premise of the unacceptability of nuclear war. We are opposed to a dispute over ideas being turned into interstate confrontation. There is not and there cannot be any other sensible foundation for relations between states with different social systems than peaceful coexistence: This is the unchanging position of our party.

Comrades, in the 100 years since Marx his teachings have been enriched by the immense experience of the international workers movement and the whole revolutionary movement. Thanks to Lenin a whole new epoch was opened up in the development of Marxist theory and, most importantly, in its successful implementation. Now, scientific socialism also includes the experience of the victorious socialist revolutions, primarily of course, the Great October Revolution, and the experience of the developed socialist society in the USSR and the experience of the construction of socialism in a whole range of countries. Mankind now has at its disposal an invaluable possession; there is a science of the construction of socialism and an actually existing socialist society itself. It has defended itself in unyielding battles with imperialism and is moving forward with confidence. [applause]

Knoweldge of Marx, just as of Engels and Lenin, is not just the best way of gaining access to real culture but is also an inexhustible source of education, ideological and spiritual enrichment, and mo-al improvement. We draw from this source in order successfully to resolve current tasks of our life and struggle. To master, defend and develop; to use skillfully in practice in the most varied conditions -- that is how our party's attitude to scientific socialism could be briefly described. For the CPSU, for all genuine strugglers for the interests of the working class, and for the freedom and happiness of the peoples, scientific socialism, Marxism-Leninism, is and always will be an inspiring source of light and reason, a reliable and wise guide to action. [applause]

IZVESTIYA DISCUSSES PATRIOTISM, INTERNATIONALISM

PM301601 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 83 Morning Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Soviet Patriotism"]

[Text] "Sweet, bright motherland! All our boundless filial loves goes to you, all our thoughts are with you." Which one of us will not agree with these words of M. Sholokhov!

There is no real human character without a feeling of patriotism. Profound and selfless, this feeling fills us with unfading interest in everything taking place on the boundless expanses of our native land. It generates a desire to be involved in our contemporaries' great achievements. Our hearts are warmed by the life-giving heat of friendship which nurtures the Soviet person's feeling of nationwide pride and a sense of belonging to a single great motherland. Lofty humanism in relations between the peoples pervades all the capillaries of our society. A society in which each person's concern for nationwide interests has become an unfailing rule.

Citizen of the Soviet Union is a lofty, proud title. We receive it with our birth certificate. But we must maintain the right to it all our lives, and carry it in crystal purity through the years. Above all we must confirm this title by honest labo: for the benefit and prosperity of our beloved motherland. Soviet patriotism and socialist internationalism are inextricably interlinked. This miraculous fusion, born of October and tempered in the fire of battle and in peaceful labor, is manifested today in thousands of great and small deeds.

Envoys from sunny Uzbekistan are helping to construct new sovkhozes with the highly symbolic names Druzhba [friendship], Uzbekistan, and Tashkentskiy, on the age-old Russian lands of Ivanovo and Novgorod Oblasts. Making their contribution to the transformation of the Non-Chernozem, they have carried out reclamation work here on 60,000 hectares and presented new settlers with 150,000 square meters of housing.

A recent report from the Urengoy-Uzgordo gas pipeline route has a succinct sound: 3,900 km of pipes have been welded together. In constructing this transcontinental main pipeline which passes through the harsh tundra, the Taiga, and swamps, representatives of over 60 of the country's nations and ethnic groups are overcoming two mountain ranges -- the Urals and the Carpathians -- and hundreds of rivers and are working in a shock fasion.

Multinational labor collectives, primarily worker collectives, are precisely the media where an internationalist spirit is best formed and the fraternity and friendship of the USSR peoples are best strengthened. The collectives of the Baykal-Amur Railroad, Tyumen, and the Non-Chernozem where the envoys of all the sister-republics are fruitfully working have become veritable universities for the formation of Soviet patriotism, internationalism, and for political and labor tempering. The construction of a modest school on the Kemelishki Sovkhoz, Ostrovetskiy Rayon, Belorussia, has become such a university of friendship. The farm has been unable to commission the school on time through its own efforts. Then, at the deputies' initiative, friends came from the neighboring A. Mitskevich and Zavety Ilicha Kolkhozes. They created a joint team including the best stonemasons and finishers. On Saturdays and Sundays young people from neighboring villages worked at the construction site. The school was commissioned ahead of schedule with an "excellent" rating.

The union republics' traditional links are constantly being enriched and the mutual exchange of leading experience is developing. A substantial contribution is made to this by the soviets of people's deputies. Some 2.3 million of the people's elected representatives communists and nonparty people, and representatives of over 100 nationalities are resolving in them, from general state positions, important questions of political, socioeconomic, and cultural building and are undergoing fine schooling in management skills.

Our history and our present day are rich in examples of fine spiritual impulses devoted to the fatherland. An outstanding worker moves to a laggard team to help the shop or plant to become a leading one. A teacher who has collected a library over many years presents it as a gift to his fellow villagers. A kolkhoz member helps to preserve a unique corner of a nature for his heirs. A gray-haired veteran sends part of his pension to the Soviet peace fund so that his contribution can help to preserve a clear sky, children's melodious voices, and peace and happiness on our dove-gray [goluboy] planet. Every act of this kind is dictated by devotion to their dear collective, to the corner of land on which you live, and by love for the motherland.

Patriotic education is the imperishable memory of the great ordeals the Soviet people have suffered. That is why the readers' expedition [ekspeditsiya] entitled "Memory, Unknown Pages of the War" undertaken by IZVESTIYA is meeting with a broad response. The people's deputies are actively joining it. It is important that in this work the Soviets should not restrict themselves merely to helping in collecting testimonies from those who took part in combat operations or in recovering as yet unknown facts and events but should also be concerned to ensure that communal graves are tended, that [the leaves of] trees should rustle and flowers bloom at obelisks, that not a single war veteran nor a single family of a servicemen who has given his life for the motherland should go unheeded.

We are proud of the great internationalist mission of the Soviet Union which acts on the international arena as a bulwark for the forces struggling against the arms race and the fuelling of tension and for peace, disarmament, and solidarity and cooperation with working people of all countries. Patriotism and internationalism are asserted and verified in deeds -- in a man's labor and political activeness, in his real personal contribution to the country's economy and culture. Creative, enterprising labor, a constant quest for what is new, a persistent struggle for the implementation of the decisions of the 26th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums -- that is Soviet patriotism in action.

We are faced with "a constant task of abiding importance," Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, noted in his report "Sixty Years of the USSSR." "The education of Soviet people in a spirit of mutual respect and friendship of all country's nations and ethnic groups, of love for their great Soviet motherland, internationalism, and solidarity with the working people of other countries." That is an important task for the soviets of peoples deputies. And they are called on to resolve it vigorously, and consistently, enriching with new elements the existing practice of patriotic and international education.

SOVIET UNION PUBLISHING REQUIREMENTS DISCUSSED

PM291321 Moscow SOVETSKAYA KULTURA in Russian 19 Mar 83 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Books for the People"]

[Excerpts] An enlarged joint session of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants, and the Book Trade collegium and the Cultural Workers' Trade Union Central Committee Presidium has been held. B.N. Pastukhov, the State Committee's chairman, delivered a report "On the Results of the Sector's Work in 1982 and the Tasks in the Light of the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum and of the tenets and conclusions contained in CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Yu.V. Andropov's Report '60 Years of the USSR'."

Like all Soviet people, the speaker said, working people in our sector are working most enthusiastically to implement the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Publishers, print workers, and distributors of literature successfully fulfilled the state plan for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan according to the main indicators and the socialist pledges adopted in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation.

Like all other workers on the ideological front, publishing staff perceived as a program requirement the lofty party demand formulated in Yu.V. Andropov's report "60 Years of the USSR": "A convincing and concrete demonstration of our achievements, a serious analysis of the new problems which life is constantly throwing up, freshness of thought and world -- this is the way to refine all our propaganda which must always be true and realistic, and also interesting, intelligible, and therefore more effective."

Last year the sector's collectives put a great deal of effort into ensuring the prompt production and dissemination of literature on key problems of CPSU foreign and domestic policy.

Unfortunately, as well as interesting, substantive publications, there have been books and booklets filled with generalities, crammed with minor facts and figures and written in officialese. And this means that the work on the manuscripts was too hasty.

New works have been published studying the dialectics of the development of the state of the whole people and socialist democracy. At the same time, there is a lack of good books generalizing the development of our democracy on the basis of the USSR Constitution and the work of the soviets whose powers and potential have considerably widened in recent years.

The issuing of books and booklets propagandizing the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum and materials of the session celebrating the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation currently occupy a very important place in publishing houses' plans.

A great deal of work has been done to prepare individual books and series of books on problems relating to scientific and technical progress, the development of the fuel-energy complex, construction and transport, and the implementatin of the Food Program. The pooling of efforts by a number of publishing houses has made it possible, for example, to embark on the production of two series -- "Questions of Agroindustrial Integration" and "Industry Supplying the Countryside." A series is also under way of experience of introducing team forms of labor organization in various national economic sectors.

But if we assess this sphere in the light of the demands of the CPSU Central Committee November plenum, the speaker continued, a great deal leaves something to be desired. Propaganda of leading experience is sometimes purely descriptive and it lacks the eseential generalizations and specification of the economic and organizational conditions which prompt high-quality productive labor.

The major failing is the inadequate elaboration of practical recommendations whose implementation would facilitate significant improvements.

The report makes a point of raising the question of improving the production of books explaining the scientific principles of ideological education work aimed at improving its effectiveness. Special attention must be devoted to publications on the theme of patriotic education and the preparation of assertive counterpropaganda literature capable of actively generating Soviet people's class and political vigilance, tempering our young people ideologically, and stengthening their readiness to defend the motherland and socialist gains.

Recently the Molodaya Gvardiya Publishing House published N. Yakovlev's book "The CIA Versus the USSR" which is a telling expose of the intrigues of the U.S. intelligence. It made a widespread impact in the press. Work is currently under way on a number of new publications. The Planeta Publishing House is preparing an album of photographs called "Imperialism: Crimes Against Mankind" ("Imperializm: Prestupleniya Pered Chelovechestvom") and the SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA Publishing House will be publishing new books in the series "On the Other Side" ("Po Tu Storonu"). It is the task of all publishing houses in the country to produce books like these.

The speaker analyzed in detail the problems relating to the improvement of the system of determining the size of editions and stressed the need for publishing houses to be more exacting when assessing manuscripts submitted to them.

Again and again, B.N. Pastukhov noted, the party Central Committee points out to us the impermissibility of conciliatory attitudes toward alien views and concepts and any departures from the clear-cut ideological positions. We are obliged to totally eradicate from our practice the instances which one still encounters of conciliatory attitudes toward modernist so-called "ideas" which are being vigorously plugged by ideological opponents. Some publications on the visual arts and the theater are guilty of this.

The 26th CPSU Congress set the country's book publishers the tasks of meeting more fully the demand for printed matter, particularly children's and artistic literature and improving the ideological and artistic standard of it. According to the data of the all-union book office [knizhnaya palata] production of artistic and children's literature in the Soviet Union increased in 1982 by nearly 100 million copies compared with 1980, reaching a total of around 900 million copies.

It is characteristic that during this period the increase in the output of children's and artistic literature was in advance of the development of book publishing as a whole. Substantial contributions were made by the Khudozhestvennaya Literatura, Sovetskiy Pisatel, Detskaya Literatura, PRAVDA and some sectorial publishing houses and the state publishing committees of the RSFSR, the Ukraine, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Moldavia, Kirghizia, and Estonia. But in some places the situation is not a happy one: For example, the plan related to the program for publishing heavydemand literature is not being fulfilled in Tajikistan, Lithuania, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.

But our chief task, the speaker noted, is to ensure that all publications are of a high ideological and artistic standard. In this connection he dwelt in detail on the improvement of the existing practice of monitoring the content of published literature.

Indicating the demands formulated in the well-known CPSU Central Committee resolution "On Creative Links Between Literary and Artistic Journals and the Work of Communist Building," B.N. Pastukhov stressed: It is necessary to constantly increase the publishers' organizing role in the preparation of outstanding, essential books on topical themes and to more actively observe the social imperative.

In every area of our creative and production work, B.N. Pastukhov stressed, at all management levels, there must be discipline, immaculate order and genuine Leninist elan. Success will greatly depend on the correct placement of cadres whereby the crucial posts are occupied by politically mature, competent and enterprising people possessing organizing abilities and a sense of what is new.

PRAVDA REPORTS ON LENINGRAD OBKOM PLENUM

PM291355 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Mar 83 First Edition p 2

[Report by V. Gerasimov, G. Petrov, and V. Senin: "Following the Course of Efficiency"]

[Text] There are over 577,000 Communists in the Leningrad party organization. Two-thirds of them are employed in production. It has become traditional to inform party members regularly of the activity of the CPSU obkom. To this end a report is prepared which obkom members, and candidate members, and members of the Auditing Commission deliver at party meetings in labor collectives, submitting for widespread discussion information about what the Leningrad people have done in resolving the most important tasks of economic and social development and what still has to be done for the successful implementation of what has been planned.

A Leningrad party obkom plenum held at the Smolnyy Institute has devoted to a discussion of an information report [doklad] on the party obkom's work in fulfilling the resolution of the oblast party organization's 25th conference in the light of the requirements of the 26th CPSU Congress and subsequent CPSU Central Committee plenums. G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee plenums. G.V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad party obkom, delivered a speech at the plenum.

The instructions and conclusions of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, set forth in his speech at the plenum and the report "60 Years of the USSR" occupy a special place in the life of the party and state, G.V. Romanov said. People are welcoming with approval the information reports [soobshcheniye] on the current Politburo sessions and the specific posing of urgent questions, and the realistic approach toward the solution of the tasks of perfecting and reorganizing the economic mechanism, methods of managing the national economy, and introducing into practice measures opening up fuller scope for creative efforts conditioned by the very nature of socialist society are meeting with full support.

The period since the 26th CPSU Congress, it was said at the plenum, has been marked in the activity of the obkom and the Leningrad oblast party organization as a whole by the intensified attention of Communists and all working people toward the practical implementation of the tasks of economic and social development, the intensification of a the agroindustrial complex, and the raising of cadres' responsibility for their assigned work. The Leningrad people have taken a new step in the more effective use of the existing industrial, scientific, technical and spiritual potential. The attainment of successes is considerably promoted by comprehensive planning, which helps in better linking the development of enterprises in the material production sphere with the sectors of the municipal economy and services for the population, accelerating the retooling and modernization of fixed capital, and calculating more precisely and economically the balances for labor and material and technical resources.

In the first 2 years of the 5-year plan the Leningrad people have created hundreds of types of new equipment and technology, and in terms of their parameters many models surpass the best world counterparts. Over 500 sectors, shops, and production facilities have been mechanized and automated. Over 700 mechanized flow lines and hundreds of robot-manipulators have been introduced. The collective organization of labor has become a leading form. The course is continuing toward improving the management structure and reducing the administrative and managerial apparatus.

All this has enabled the Leningrad people not only to tackle the targets of the first 2 years of the 5-year plan successfully but also to produce additional output worth R203 million.

The basis for the agroindustrial complex's development is specialization, concentration, interfarm cooperation, and the use of scientific recommendations in practice.

While paying tribute to the successes, those taking part in the plenum focused their attention on an analysis of ways of further improving the efficiency and quality of labor in all spheres of production and organizing it on a modern basis. The speeches delivered by A.I. Kirsanov, secretary of the Kalininskiy Raykom; Yu. V. Vasilyev, secretary of the Izhorskiy Zavod association party committee; A.V. Ivanov, general director of the Leningrad admiralty associations; Hero of Socialist Labor N.S. Lebedev, turner and reamer at the Sverdlov machine tool building association; and others pointed out that the main thing now is to make more rational use of material and manpower resources and to ensure that productivity growth rates exceed production volume growth rates.

Unfortunately, at some enterprises of heavy and transport machine building, the food and meat and dairy industry, in construction, and in transport this work is behind schedule. The scientific and planning organizations which design and produce manufacturing equipment and means of automation are being reorganized only slowly. Some party and economic leaders still interpret participation in the implementation of targeted scientific and technical programs as some tribute to fashion and prefer to operate in the old way.

The party obkom sections, gorkoms, and raykoms, the plenum noted, must monitor more rigorously and thoroughly the content and quality of plans for scientific and technical progress, the saving of energy, material and manpower resources, and seek the unconditional fulfillment of what has been planned. These questions must be painstakingly worked on by the gorispolkom and oblispolkom planning commissions, involving in active participation in their solution the specialists from parent enterprises, scientific, planning, and manufacturing organizations, and institutions of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

Speaking of the Leningrad party organization's well-known experience in creating production associations and science and production associations, the speakers noted that the scientific research and planning subdivisions within enterprises are called on not only to work in conjunction with production workers but also to receive an assessment of their work depending on the end results of the entire science and production complex. A varied quest is underway in this direction. For instance, an important economic experiment has begun in five of the city's leading associations. It is aimed at ensuring that the set targets are fulfilled by the least number of engineering and technical workers and that saving on the wages fund serves as a source for additional incentives for them.

The speeches delivered by N. Moskovkin, first secretary of the Lomonosovskiy Raykom; V.N. Pashinskiy, general director of the Ruchi Sovkhozes association; and S.S. Skurikhina, mechanical milking foreman at the Razdolye Pedigree breeding sovkhoz, were devoted to ways of intensifying agricultural production. It was noted that since the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) plenum, the formation of agroindustrial associations had been basically completed in the oblast on the basis of the financially autonomous sovkhoz associations already in existence. They are designed to exert more active influence on planning and to follow more rigorously the implementation of the subcontractors' production program. At the same time it was pointed out that the inertia of disunity continues to operate in a number of cases. Sharp criticism was heard at the plenum against the leaders of the Selkhoztekhnika, Selkhozkhimiya, and Lenmelioratsia, and the Glavlenplodoovoshchprom which are still being dilatory in reorganizing their activity to confirm with the new conditions.

Priority tasks include those of cultivating good harvests of agricultural crops using a scientifically substantiated system of arable farming, the extensive introduction of industrial technology, and the achievements of selection and breeding work. An important role should be played by the organization of labor on the basis of the principles of the collective contract with the job-rate and bonus [akkordno-premialnaya] system of payment on the basis of end results. The party gorkoms and raykoms have been set the task of implementing in the very near future a package of measures for the widespread dissemination of the progressive form of work.

Analyzing the state of capital construction, transport, and the municipal services, those taking part in the plenum noted that positive changes are at hand in these spheres. But as before there are also many shortcomings: The range of consumer goods is being updated only slowly and the development of the network of public catering at people's workplaces is lagging behind requirements, especially at enterprises of instrument building, heavy machine building, machine tool building, automotive transport, and small plants and factories. Other questions connected with the improvement of the working people's services also require resolving.

It is well known that the implementation of national economic plans largely depends on their ideological backup. Those taking part in the plenum spoke of the need for the organic combination of economic, organizational, and ideological factors in educational work. It is necessary to step up measures aimed at consolidating labor discipline, enhancing responsibility for the assigned work, observing safety regulations, to activate the struggle against deviations from the norms of social morality, and to intercept abuses resolutely.

It was pointed out that the militia, court, and procuracy workers still do not always operate promptly. The party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations and creative intelligentsia must display their role more actively in creating an atmosphere of intolerance toward negative manifestations.

Noting the improved standard of leadership by the obkom departments and the consistent enrichment of organizational work with effective new forms, the speakers said that every party committee must become a militant political staff and persistently seek to strengthen the primary organization's positions in the struggle for the unconditional fulfillment of the set tasks.

The plenum approved the information report [doklad] on the CPSU obkom's activity. All primary organizations will be familiarized with it. The resolution adopted expressed the certainty that the Communists and working people of Leningrad city and oblast will work still more energetically on the fulfillment of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) plenum, the plans for the 11th 5-Year Plan, and the tasks set by the 26th party congress.

TURKMEN KOMSOMOL CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM HELD

GF281310 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 13 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] The Turkmenistan Komsomol Central Committee held its sixth plenum in Ashkhabad on 12 March. It discussed the tasks of the republic's Komsomol organizations for further strengthening labor discipline and improving the Communist education of youths in light of the main points of the report presented by Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. Charryyev, first secretary of the Turkmenistan Komsomol Central Committee, presented a report.

The reports and speeches of the plenum's participants noted the labor reaction and deep understanding by the republic's Komsomolers, Youths, and girls to the instructions contained in the speeches of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee plenum, his report on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR and his speech during meeting with the Moscow machine tool construction workers on the necessity of the decisive struggle against any kind of violation of the state, labor, and social discipline.

All the republic's Komsomol organizations have taken practical measures for the realization of the tasks specified by the party for strengthening the labor discipline, increasing the effectiveness of production, and for a conceivable economy of material resources.

The plenum noted that discipline has always been the major persistent work. In the republic there are many collectives which are comprehensively solving the questions of strengthening labor discipline, the effective use of work time, and raw material resources. The work of the Komsomol organizations of the Mary hydroelectric power plant for the 50th anniversary of the USSR, the Cheleken industrial carbon factory, and the Chardzhou experiment factory and many others were cited as examples. The meeting stressed the role of the Komsomol-youth collectives in supporting the republic's Komsomol organizations in mobilizing the youths for the fulfillment of the highly important national economic tasks.

The plenum discussed questions of improving organizational and political work and ameliorating the styles and methods of the Komsomol work. Corresponding resolutions were adopted. Rachkov, second secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, addressed the plenum.

MOSCOW TV REPORTS DEATH OF ALEXSANDR KAVERZNEV

LD292054 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 29 Mar 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Aleksandr Kaverznev has departed this life. A sudden illness cut short his life's road following his return from Afghanistan, while beginning work on a new film. A passionate party publicist, a journalist with a rare talent, a charming and modest man, has departed this life. He was loved by everyone who knew him personally. He was sincerely liked by all who saw him on the television screen. Political observer Kaverznev was a fearless frontline correspondent in Vietnam, Kampuchea, Afghanistan. He created a series of brilliant TV films about the most poignant and exciting events of our time. The creativity of Aleksandr Kaverznev on TV was recognized in state prizes from the USSR and the Julius Fucik Medal of the International Journalists' Organization. The memory of Kaverznev the Communist, our friend, who will be so missed by all, the journalist who did not spare himself, will forever remain in our hearts. [video shows a photograph of Aleksandr Kaverznev]

BRIEFS

NEW IRKUTSK SECRETARY -- A report from Irkutsk states that a plenum of the obkom examined organizational questions today. In connection with his retirement on pension Comrade Bannikov has been released from his duties as first secretary of the obkom. Comrade (Sitnikov), who has worked as second secretary of the Kemerovo Obkom, has been elected first secretary of the Irkutsk Obkom. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 28 Mar 83 LD]

SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE IN 1982 DETAILED

PM300857 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 13, Mar 83 (Signed to Press 21 Mar) pp 20-21

[Review by V. Klochek, member of the Collegium and chief of the Main Administration of Economic Planning at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade: "The USSR's Foreign Trade in 1982"]

[Text] In his report at the ceremonial session in honor of the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation Comrade Yu.V. Andropov noted:

"A dense fabric of peaceful cooperation links the Soviet Union with countries on all continents."

In 1982 the USSR had trade and economic ties with 143 states, for 116 of which relations were governed by intergovernmental agreements on trade and economic and industrial cooperation.

The USSR's foreign trade turnover in 1982 was 9 percent up on 1981 at current prices, reaching R119.6 billion. Soviet exports increased from R57.1 billion to R63.2 billion, and imports from R52.6 billion to R56.4 billion.

Volume of the USSR's Foreign Trade by Groups of Countries (billion rubles)

	1975	1981	1982
Total			
turnover	50.7	109.7	119.6
exports	24.0	57.1	63.2
imports	26.7	52.6	56.4
Socialist countries			
turnover	28.6	57.9	65.0
exports	14.6	31.2	34.2
imports	14.0	26.7	30.8
including:			
CEMA countries			
turnover	26.2	52.2	58.7
exports	13.3	28.6	31.2
imports	12.9	23.6	27.5
Industrially developed capitalist countries			
turnover	15.8	35.3	37.7
exports	6.1	17.2	18.8
imports	9.7	18.1	18.9
Developing countries			
turnover	6.3	16.5	16.9
exports	3.3	8.7	10.2
imports	3.0	7.8	6.7

Exports

Soviet exports today include output from nearly all the main sectors of the country's machine building. Output from such leading sectors as the automotive industry, the aircraft industry, the power industry, metallurgical machine building and the tractor and machine tool building industry now accounts for more than half the total volume of USSR's machine building exports.

The total volume of exports of Soviet machines, equipment and means of transport reached R8.1 billion in 1982 as against R7.8 billion in 1981 and R4.5 billion in 1975. The main bulk of exports of these products -- more than 73 percent -- go to socialist countries, and some 23 percent to developing states.

The share accounted for by industrially developed capitalist countries, which often apply various kinds of discriminatory restrictions with regard to exports of articles made by Soviet machine building, remains relatively small -- 4 percent.

With an overall growth of 4.1 percent in exports of Soviet machine building output, there was an increase in deliveries of bearings to socialist and industrially developed capitalist countries, cars to developed capitalist countries and metal-cutting machine tools, electric motors, metallurgical equipment, tractors and trucks to developing countries.

Among the commodity groups making up Soviet exports, the greatest increase last year was in deliveries of energy sources -- 15.2 percent. The intensive and successful opening up of major new oil and gas deposits in the east, the substantial expansion of the network of oil and gas pipelines and the increase in the capacity of the CEMA countries' unified electricity system make it possible to increase the volume of deliveries of Soviet energy sources and more fully supply the requirements of the fraternal socialist countries for imported fuel and energy. There was an increase in exports of energy sources on the basis of barter agreements concluded earlier with a number of capitalist states.

Ores, concentrates, metals and articles made from them accounted for 7.4 percent of the country's export earnings in 1982. Exports of these goods doubled in the seventies. Last year there was an increase in deliveries of pig iron and aluminum to developed capitalist countries, rolled aluminum to socialist and capitalist countries, and also certain other metals. Exports of certain goods in this group to CEMA countries increased in connection with the expansion by joint efforts, or production capacities for producing these goods.

Deliveries of chemical products continued -- mainly from enterprises built with the assistance of firms from capitalist countries on a barter basis. This group of goods accounted for a 3.1 percent share of exports.

Exports of timber fell compared with 1981. Thus 15.2 percent less round timber and 7.1 percent less sawn lumber was exported. Deliveries of pulp and paper goods, however, increased by 9.3 percent, mainly to CEMA countries.

Exports of cultural and consumer goods continued to expand. They increased by 12.3 percent. In 1982 nearly 550,000 refrigators, 21.7 million domestic clocks and watches, 1 million cameras, some 956,000 bicycles, 1.2 million radio receivers and 612,000 television sets were exported.

Imports

The substantial increase in Soviet exports in 1982 made it possible to increase imports of products needed by the country by 7.2 percent -- to R56.4 billion.

The main bulk of the increase in imports was accounted for by machines, equipment and means of transport. The volume of imports in this group of goods increased by 22 percent -- from R15.9 billion in 1981 to R19.4 billion in 1982 -- and their share of all USSR imports was 34.4 percent last year.

Imports of equipment and materials for the renovation and modernization of the machine building and metallurgical industry and the development of the power industry and transport developed at preferential rates in 1982. Thus imports of production lines of metalworking

equipment increased 36 percent. In all, metalworking equipment worth R1,456 million was imported. Imports of electrical equipment increased by 14.7 percent -- to R635 million, and of trucks and garage equipment by 23 percent -- to R1,541 million.

Manufacturing equipment was imported in large quantities, some R758 million worth of it was imported for the metallurgical industry, which is 71 percent more than in 1981; R853 million worth was imported for the chemical industry, R548 million worth for the textile industry, R222 million worth for the timber, pulp and paper and wood processing industry, and R121 million worth for the printing industry.

Purchases of machines and equipment are made by the Soviet Union mainly in socialist countries. Imports from those countries increased by 16.6 percent compared with 1981 and totaled R13.4 billion, while there share of Soviet imports of machinery and technical equipment was 68.9 percent.

The Soviet Union received from CEMA countries equipment and materials for ancillary construction work on the Soyuz gas pipeline, for the Khmelnitskaya and south Ukrainian nuclear power stations, for the Mozyr animal feed yeast plant and for other projects being built by the joint efforts of interested countries. In addition, for instance, on the basis of equipment bought from Poland, last year saw the commissioning of a manufacturing line for the production of sulfuric acid at the Yefremov chemicals plant, and for the manufacture of silica bricks in the city of Chur in the Udmurt ASSR; using Czech equipment, capacities were commissioned at the nitrogenous fertilizers plant in Fergana.

Equipment worth R5.9 billion was imported from the industrially developed capitalist countries, which is 35 percent more than in 1981; their share of Soviet imports of machinery and technical equipment increased slightly and amounted to 30.3 percent.

The year 1982 saw the commissioning of chemical plants fitted with complete sets of equipment purchased from Western countries in the cities of Mogilev, Tomsk and Dzerzhinsk. The fourth and last phase of the Nikolayev mining enrichment combine for the production of alumina was commissioned. A mechanized flow line for the welding, assembly and machining of tractor chassis in Chemoksary and a gas preparation and transportation installation in Ivano-Frankovsk came into operation. Imported equipment is being used in the construction of the Urengoy-Pomary-Uzhgorod export gas pipeline. Thus 17 gas compressor stations were imported for it from Western countries in 1982.

A major item in Soviet imports is metals and articles made from them, ores and concentrates. In this group of goods, there was a substantial -- 38 percent -- increase in imports of pipes, bought mainly from capitalist countries for the construction of gas pipelines. Pipes worth R2.2 billion were imported in 1982.

Foreign trade was used widely to improve supplies of the necessary types of raw materials for light and food industry enterprises, and also to provide working people more fully with consumer goods, including food products.

In 1982 the Soviet Union imported 6.2 million tons of raw sugar, some 940,000 tons of meat and meat products, more than 150,000 tons of butter and 866,000 tons of vegetable oil, 526 million eggs, 47,900 tons of coffee, 115,000 tons of cocoa beans, 73,400 tons of tea, 1,158,000 tons of fresh fruits and berries, 174,000 tons of fresh vegetables, 124,000 tons of tobacco, 427 million meters of textiles, R1,104 million worth of sewn goods and nearly R600 million worth of knitted goods, 130 million pairs of footwear, nearly R580 million worth of furniture and other consumer goods. A certain quantity of grain was imported.

An important place in our party's economic policy belongs to measures connected with the development of the agroindustrial complex. Foreign trade makes a substantial contribution to the resolution of these tasks.

Thus various kinds of machinery are imported for harvesting the crop, cleaning grain, equipping dairy units and preparing fodder. In 1982 agricultural machinery worth some R890 million was imported.

For the cultivation of agricultural crops, chemical plant-protection agents worth R241 million, 362,000 tons of mineral fertilizers and R127 million worth of seed and planting material were imported.

The livestock raising sector imported from abroad some 8,000 head of pedigree livestock and 2 million pedigree domestic fowl, as well as a considerable quantity of feed grain.

Sectors producing the means of production for the agroindustrial sector received from abroad equipment for tractor and agricultural machine building and for the production of mineral fertilizers and chemical plant-protection agents to the tune of R58.2 million.

Sectors of the agricultural processing industry were also supplied with sets of imported equipment and materials. The food and flavoring industry imported nearly R526 million worth of equipment, and the fish industry R256 million worth.

The Socialist Countries -- Our Main Partners

Trade turnover is developing at the highest rates with socialist countries, which hold the leading place in the USSR's foreign economic ties. Compared with 1981, trade turnover with socialist countries increased by 12.1 percent, reaching R64.9 billion. Their share of the USSR's total trade turnover rose from 52.8 percent in 1981 to 54.3 last year.

The dynamics and the formation of the structure of trade turnover with the socialist countries are determined by agreements on trade turnover, on cooperation between CEMA countries in the joint construction of enterprises and on specialization and production sharing in the production of machines and equipment.

The USSR's Trade Turnover With Socialist Countries (million rubles)

	1975	1981	1982
CEMA countries	28,311	52,185	58,702
of which:			
Bulgaria	3,991	8,071	9,173
Hungary	3,272	6,607	7,454
Vietnam	2,065	892	1,011
GDR	5,623	10,681	12,196
Cuba	2,589	4,807	5,841
Mongolia	480	1,036	1,233
Poland	4,853	8,152	8,910
Romania	1,526	3,452	3,107
Czechoslovakia	3,911	8,487	9,779
Other socialist countries	2,097	5,749	6,250
of which:			
Yugoslavia	1,558	5,006	5,279
China	201	177	224
DPRK	338	529	681
Laos	--	37	66

Agreements signed with socialist countries in 1982 cover a wide range of questions of trade and economic cooperation. An agreement was signed with Bulgaria, for instance, on cooperation in timber procurement and the production of industrial wood chips on the USSR's territory, an agreement with the GDR on cooperation in building main gas pipelines in the USSR, and an agreement with the CSSR on transit for Soviet natural gas through its territory to West European countries.

Trade and economic cooperation with the CEMA countries is developing most successfully. Trade with that group of countries increased by 12.5 percent in 1982, reaching R58.7 billion. These countries' share of the country's foreign trade turnover rose from 47.6 percent in 1981 to 49.1 percent in 1982.

The development of trade with the CEMA countries is increasingly determined by the further deepening of socialist economic integration and the expansion of reciprocal production, scientific and technical ties.

Great attention is now devoted to questions of supply the population more fully with high quality industrial goods and food products.

The resolution of the food problem presupposes -- alongside the development of the sectors making up the national agroindustrial complex -- the fuller utilization of all the potential and advantages of specialization, production sharing and integration among the CEMA countries in the agroindustrial sphere. In the sphere of agriculture a score of multilateral agreements on economic scientific and technical cooperation have already been signed, as well as more than 10 in the food industry sphere.

The Soviet Union actively gives the fraternal countries technical assistance in resolving on a multilateral basis the important problem of improving the structure of the fuel and energy balance and strengthening the energy base of the socialist community countries by creating reliable electricity sources. Nuclear power stations with a capacity of some 4.5 million kilowatts have been built and brought into commercial operation in CEMA countries with the help of soviet organizations.

On the basis of shared participation in cooperation with Romanian organizations, the construction of the south Ukrainian nuclear power station has begun -- from 1985 it will supply Romanian cities and villages with electricity. Romania is paying its way in the construction with advance deliveries to the USSR of pipes, automatically unloading freightcars for shipping grain, and certain other goods.

The construction of the Khmelnitskaya nuclear power station on Soviet territory continued from 1984 it will supply electricity to Hungary, Poland and the CSSR. Those countries are doing their share for the construction of the power station by delivering machines, equipment, metal structures, construction materials and other goods to the USSR.

The CEMA countries, which have an interest in satisfying their raw materials requirements more fully, give help in the form of capital investments in developing the extracting sectors of industry in the USSR, and in particular in building projects for the extraction of ferriferous raw material in our country. Romania, the CSSR and the GDR supplied machines, equipment and other goods for these projects in 1982, while the Soviet Union exported ferriferous raw material to those countries.

Business Ties With Capitalist Countries

Throughout last year the capitalist world's economy continued to quake at the blows of the latest crisis, which has assumed a protracted nature.

During this period the USSR is one of the few countries whose foreign trade ties with the West are on the whole continuing to expand.

In 1982 alone the USSR's trade turnover with indsutrially developed capitalist countries increased by 6.7 percent compared with 1981, reaching R37.7 billion. Exports to industrially developed capitalist countries increased by 9.3 percent in 1982, reaching R18.8 billion, while imports totaled R18.9 billion, a 4.3 percent increase.

The growth in exports is connected, in particular, with the expansion in deliveries of energy sources, machines and equipment.

The successes of the relaxation of international tension in the seventies did much to favor the development of trade and economic ties with that group of countries. Their share of total volume of the USSR's foreign trade increased from 21 percent to 31.7 percent over the decade.

However, in relations with capitalist countries it has recently been necessary to overcome considerable difficulties and unresolved problems. For instance, there are continuing attempts on the part of imperialist circles in certain Western states to impose a trade credit blockade, and various discriminatory restrictions are imposed on trade with socialist countries.

In 1982 the U.S. ruling circles resorted to various kinds of sanctions and boycotts with regard to mutally advantageous East-West cooperation. Most of the governments of Western countries, however, displayed a more realistic approach to assessing the prevailing situation.

Industrial firms in the FRG, France and certain other West European states signed major new long-term contracts with Soviet foreign trade organizations last year.

In 1982 large-scale projects of a long-term nature were implemented with Western firms on the basis of agreements concluded earlier in the fuel, metallurgical and chemical industries and other sectors of the national economy. Equipment was imported from the FRG, Sweden and a number of other Western countries for the Oskol electrometallurgical combine, from the FRG and France for the Savany aluminum complex, from France for the Nikolayev alumina plant, from the FRG, France, Italy and Britain for major chemical enterprises and from Japan for the enrichment factory at the south Yakutsk coal complex.

Trade Turnover With Individual Industrially Developed Capitalist Countries (million rubles)

	1975	1981	1982
West European countries	11,489	28,334	29,673
of which:			
FRG	2,777	6,009	6,630
Finland	1,756	5,013	5,194
France	1,297	4,189	3,495
Italy	1,427	3,486	4,043
Britain	959	1,504	1,565
Netherlands	451	1,477	1,864
Belgium	530	1,196	1,604
Austria	445	1,361	1,210
Other countries	4,355	7,025	8,068
of which:			
Japan	1,922	3,030	3,682
United States	1,600	1,845	2,226
Canada	471	1,426	1,399
Australia	329	549	523

A notable place in our trade with developed capitalist states belongs to West European countries. The USSR's trade turnover with West European countries increased by 4.7 percent in 1982 compared with 1982 and reached R29.7 billion. In 1982 West European states accounted for 78.6 percent of the USSR's trade turnover with the industrially developed capitalist countries.

The basis for the development of economic relations with West European countries is made up of more than a score of intergovernmental agreements on economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation.

Specific avenues of development of business ties with Western states are laid down in long-term programs for the development of trade, economic, scientific and technical cooperation. Long-term, 10-year programs defining concrete spheres and forms of cooperation are being implemented with France, Britain, Austria, Italy, Canada, Belgium, Sweden, Denmark, Switzerland, Norway, Ireland and Luxembourg. Such a program has been concluded for 25 years with the FRG, and one with Finland until 1995. Many of these documents envisage high rates of growth in mutual trade turnover. For instance, trade turnover with Finland, according to the program's estimates, will total R18-20 billion in 1981-1985 as compared with R12.8 billion in the 10th 5-Year Plan.

An important role in elaborating long-term programs for trade, economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation, monitoring the fulfillment of long-term agreements and improving the structure and organizational forms of trade is carried out by intergovernmental mixed commissions. Some 20 such commissions function with industrially developed Western countries. The year 1982 saw the first session of the Soviet-Greek intergovernmental commission on economic and industrial cooperation, which adopted recommendations on elaborating a draft long-term program for cooperation between the two countries in the economic, industrial, scientific and technical spheres. A program was signed by the sides in February 1983.

Trade with the United States has increased slightly, despite the deterioration in relations with that country. An important milestone in the development of Soviet-American trade ties was the seventh session of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, held in Moscow in November 1982 after a 4-year break. The conference participants noted in a resolution adopted unanimously that "despite the difficulties that exist in relations between the two countries and certain restrictions that complicate the development of trade and economic ties between the United States and the USSR in certain spheres, the potential exists for a substantial increase in mutually advantageous trade." The conference admitted that the main obstacle hindering the development of trade is the Soviet organizations' lack of confidence as to the reliability of their American partners.

Despite restrictions imposed by the Japanese Government the country's business circles continue to display interest in business cooperation with the USSR, as is indicated by the visit of the most representative delegation of businessmen in Japan's history to the USSR in February 1983. In the course of an exchange of opinions the sides expressed the mutual intention of expanding trade and economic cooperation on an equal, mutually advantageous basis.

The Soviet Union consistently advocates extending economic cooperation with all western countries on a basis of reciprocity and mutual advantage.

Cooperation With Developing Countries

The volume of our country's trade turnover with the developing countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America increased by 2.7 percent in 1982, reaching R16.9 billion. The developing countries' share of the USSR's foreign trade was 14.1 percent in 1982.

The Soviet Union is now trading with 101 developing countries, and with 79 of these it is trading on a basis of treaty relationships. The practice of placing the USSR's trade and economic cooperation with developing countries on a long-term footing is becoming increasingly widespread. Long-term trade agreements and trade and economic cooperation programs create a stable basis for the development of trade and introduce elements of planning into trade relations, ensuring a stable market for the developing countries' traditional exports in the USSR and the opportunity for those countries to receive regular supplies of the Soviet goods they need. The range of countries with which the Soviet Union has long-term trade agreements was augmented in 1982 by Jamaica and Grenada.

A long-term program for economic and technical cooperation and trade in 1981-1985 was signed with Angola.

Early this year a protocol on mutual deliveries of goods in 1983-1985 was signed with Mozambique.

Protocols on a wide range of trade issues have also been signed with many countries. New agreements and protocols provide for the further expansion and deepending of trade and economic cooperation and for improving reciprocal settlements and forms of trade. For instance, agreement was reached with Turkey on going over in 1983 from the clearing [kliringovyy] form of settlement to settlement in freely convertible currency, and agreement was reached with Grenada on establishing a USSR trade mission in that country.

The main place among Soviet exports to developing countries is occupied by goods for manufacturing purposes that they need in order to fulfill national development programs. Deliveries of such goods help them to overcome the consequences of prolonged colonial domination by imperialist powers and promote the development of industry and agriculture and the accelerated exploitation of natural resources, including raw materials and energy resources.

In the overall complex of trade and economic relations with the developing countries great significance is attached to economic and technical cooperation -- giving them assistance in building industrial enterprises and projects. In payment for the Soviet goods delivered to developing countries and the technical assistance granted to them, the Soviet Union receives products from those countries that it needs, including finished and semifinished goods, and also freely convertible currency.

Soviet purchases, in the conditions of economic crises and currency disorders in the world capitalist economy, help to ensure the fuller utilization of production capacities and the further development of the export base of many developing states.

Trade Turnover With Individual Developing Countries (million rubles)

	1975	1981	1982
India	686	2,398	2,514
Iraq	600	909	994
Libya	19	551	1,347
Argentina	304	2,403	1,293
Iran	510	878	766
Afghanistan	132	656	691
Brazil	396	550	595
Egypt	710	511	521
Syria	168	530	512
Turkey	95	448	248

Thanks to the high rate of growth of Soviet-Indian trade and economic cooperation, India has become our biggest trading partner among the developing countries.

The Soviet Union, in its turn, is India's biggest trading partner. The mutual commitment to strengthening multifaceted trade and economic ties between the two countries was expressed unanimously during Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's official visit to the USSR last September.

In 1982 the Soviet Union spoke out actively at international forums for the elimination of all forms of colonial and neocolonial exploitation and supported the developing countries' efforts aimed at a restructuring of international economic relations on a just and equal basis.

In the conditions of the Soviet economy's continued transition onto an intensive path of development, foreign trade is called upon to more actively influence various aspects of the country's economic, scientific and technical progress and to help obtain additional benefits from the country's participation in the international division of labor. These important functions of foreign economic ties can be utilized successfully only with a scientifically based approach to planning this important sector of the economy.

The main task remains the all-round development of export potential as the main source of currency to pay for imports. Export earnings must be used with a view to obtaining the maximum return in terms of the further development of the country's production forces.

The scientific planning of foreign trade must be combined with the constant improvement of the economic mechanism at all stages of activity -- from the manufacture of the product to its delivery to the foreign client, and, with regard to imported goods. Until the final stage of their operation or consumption. Persistent work in this direction will make it possible to discover additional reserves for increasing the national economic effectiveness of foreign economic ties.

Growth of the USSR's Foreign Trade Turnover in 1975-1982 (billion rubles)

	1975	1980	1981	1982
Turnover	50.7	94.1	109.7	119.6
of which:				
Exports	24.0	49.6	57.1	63.2
Imports	26.7	44.5	52.6	56.4

Share of Individual Groups of Countires in the USSR's Foreign Trade in 1982 (percent)

Socialist countires	54.2
of which	
CEMA countries	49.1
Industrially developed capitalist countries	31.7
Developing countries	14.1

BRIEFS

UKRAINIAN SECTION OF GAS PIPELINE -- Kiev, March 19 TASS -- Builders at the construction of the Ukrainian section of the Siberia-Western Europe gas trunkline today completed half of the section -- pipes have been welded and laid into trenches along a distance of 568 kilometres. Half of the 1,136 km section of the export-oriented gas trunkline running across ten regions of the Ukraine is behind. This mark has been reached three months earlier than planned. More than two hundred collectives of builders as well as enterprises which supply metal, pipes, welding complexes and instruments participate in emulation for a high rate of building the trunkline in the republics territory. Their aim is to complete the linear part of the trunkline already in September. By the end of the year, as is provided for by the "gas-pipes" contract, the assembly of compressor stations will be finalised and the trunkline will be ready to supply gas to Western Europe. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1334 GMT 20 Mar 83 LD]

USSR COMMISSION WARNS DEPUTY MINISTERS ON LOSSES

LD282309 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Text] A session of the USSR Council of Ministers presidium commission for questions of the agroindustrial complex today considered the progress achieved in fulfilling the plans and tasks set by the USSR Government for the delivery to agriculture of material-technical means for spring field work, in the light of the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo.

At the commission meeting it was noted that central ministries and departments are taking effective measures to speed up the delivery of tractors, tilling and sowing machines, spare parts, mineral fertilizers, and other material-technical means essential for successfully carrying out the spring sowing.

At the same time, industrial enterprises of a number of USSR ministries have allowed shortfalls in the delivery of products. In a number of areas in the country due care has not been taken to accumulate the necessary amounts of fuel and lubricants. Instructions were given to the heads of the relevant ministries and departments to immediately take extra measures in order to ensure supplies of oil-products, spare parts, mineral fertilizers, and pesticides to kolkhozes and sovkhozes.

The progress achieved in fulfilling the USSR Government's decisions on measures to reduce the loss of agricultural products was discussed. Appraising the positive work done in this direction, the commission drew the attention of the heads of the Ministry of Fruits and Vegetable farming, the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry, the Ministry of the Food Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, and the USSR Ministry of Procurement, and the Central Union of Consumers' Cooperatives, to the need for the speeded-up construction and commissioning of vegetable and potato storehouses, fruit storehouses, and processing enterprises. Attention was also drawn to the need to introduce into production progressive methods of storage, transport, and processing of products in order to maximize the reduction of losses of vegetables, fruit, potatoes, and other agricultural products.

Severe warnings were given to Deputy Ministers Sokolov, of the meat and dairy industry; Kopylov, of the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances; and Chuyko, of the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing industry, that they bear personal responsibility for resolving in the shortest possible time questions connected with reducing losses of milk and dairy products marketed in paper and polyethylene packages. Machine-building ministries and departments were instructed to ensure that the demands of enterprises processing agricultural products are more fully satisfied with the corresponding technical equipment.

The question was considered of the wider development of subsidiary agricultural production plants and workshops. In order to make greater use of labor resources in agricultural areas between seasons, attention was drawn to the need to further develop subsidiary enterprises on farms for processing agricultural raw materials, and for producing building materials and consumer goods. Proposals were also discussed for increasing state control over the quality of agricultural products.

MINISTER CRITICIZED FOR ATTITUDE TO NEW TRACTOR

PM241049 [Editorial Report] Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian on 17 March First Edition carries on page 2 an "open letter" to Minister of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building A.A. Yezhevskiy entitled "The Machine Was Approved and... Rejected."

The writers of the letter, including eminent Soviet scientists, express their "anxiety about the fate of the LTZ-145 tractor." And not only for the tractor, the letter says, but for "the entire scientific and technical direction, in our view a very promising one."

The letter goes on to say that despite the need for a tractor of the Lipetsk type and despite "constant approval" from agricultural specialists and operators of the tractor, the tractor remains stuck at the "state trial stage." "This is not due to any structural defects in the machine," the letter continues, "but to the position of young ministry's technical administration." Having described the advantages of the Lipetsk tractor -- maneuverable, easy to handle, easy on materials, 2-3 times higher productivity than "traditional" models -- the writers accuse enterprises and the ministry of preferring to produce tractors of a higher value, a more profitable undertaking. Whenever an expert commission finds in favor of the tractor, the letter says, there are calls for the setting up of another commission, and so it goes on.

Invoking V.I. Lenin on the detrimental effect of endless discussion about something obvious, the writers of the letter draw Yezhevskiy's attention to his 17 January 1983 memorandum "admitting that the Lipetsk tractors 'meet agrotechnical requirements'."

The letter then rebuts the ministry's arguments against the tractor. It says that to argue that the introduction of the tractor "violates the principle of continuity" and that it is "not standardized with other series models" is to "renounce many progressive innovations." The Lipetsk tractor does not use ballast. Its detractors say that since all other tractor builders in the world use ballast, the adoption of the LTZ-145 would "preclude the possibility of borrowing foreign experience and reduce the opportunities of using modern technology in its production." The writers' retort is that "ballast is ballast" and that if it can be got rid of then get rid of it, that the kind of foreign experience they interested in is the "best" experience and "we must not flounder in the wake of technical progress and refuse to be creative ourselves."

The writers conclude their "urgent request" by saying: "As you can see, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, the inexcusable failure to give prompt support to the bold design idea has already cost dear. And not only materially but also morally and, if you like, politically."

The signatories are as follows: Academician A. Angabegyan, director of the USSR Academy of Sciences Siberian Department Institute of Industrial Production Economics and Organization; L. Prishchep, academician of the V.I. Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences and chairman of the Mechanization and Electrification Department Energy Section; Prof I. Drong, twice USSR state prize winner and expert at the state all-union Scientific Research Institute of Tractors; Prof A. Yushin, chief of the Energy Department at Ukrainian Scientific Research Institute for Mechanization and Electrification of Agriculture and doctor of technical sciences; A. Astankov, chairman of the Lipetsk Kolkhoz named for Frunze and Hero of Socialist Labor."

BRIEFS

UZBEK COTTON CULTIVATION -- (?Cotton seeds have been sown in southern Uzbekistan. Over 2 million hectares of land will be cultivated this season). By providing the kolkhozes with high quality seeds, the state has contributed toward the achievement of a high rate of yield. The Uzbek SSR is one of the main cotton-growing republics in the Soviet Union, in that over 60 percent of the general cotton produce in the Soviet Union is harvested in the Uzbek SSR. Cottongrowers in the Uzbek SSR plan to harvest over 6 million tons of cotton during the current season. Various types of agricultural machinery will be contributing toward the effort made by cottongrowers to achieve a high rate of yield in cotton this year. Currently, the republic's kolkhozes employ over (?160,000) tractors, about 50,000 [word indistinct], over 37,000 cotton harvesting combines, and various other types of machinery. [Text] [Taskent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 27 Mar 83 GF]

USSR SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES EARTH SATELLITES

Cosmos 1448

LD300836 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT 30 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 30 TASS -- The USSR today launched another artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1448, carrying scientific equipment to continue space exploration.

The sputnik was inserted into an orbit with the following parametres: Initial period of revolution -- 104.9 minutes, maximum distance from earth -- 1,017 kilometres, minimum distance -- 977 kilometres, inclination -- 83 degress.

The on-board equipment functions normally.

Cosmos 1449

LD311443 Moscow TASS in English 1431 GMT 31 Mar 83

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- The Soviet Union today launched an artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1449, to continue exploration of outer space. It has been placed in orbit with the following parametres: The initial period of revolution is 90.3 minutes, the maximum distance from the earth's surface is 402 km, the minimum distance is 207 km, the inclination of the orbit is 72.9 degrees.

The onboard equipment is functioning normally.